

This report is produced by OCHA Libya in collaboration with the inter sector coordination group and the humanitarian partners.

## Highlights

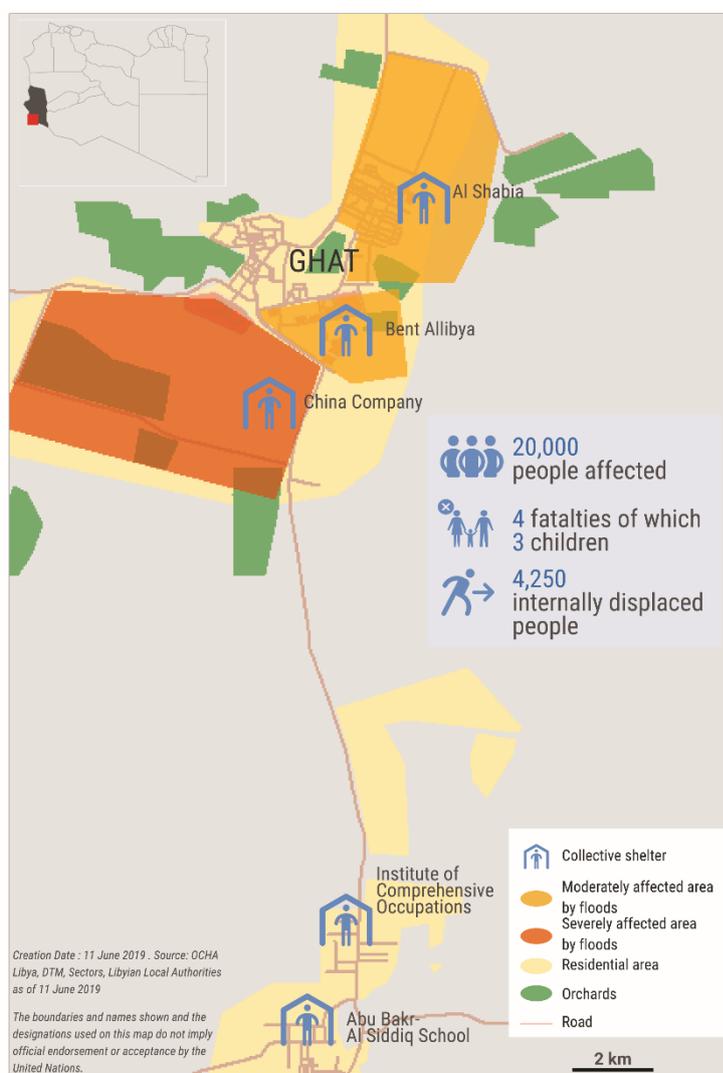
- Water flood levels dropped and the weather in Ghat municipality has cleared.
- Over 20,000 persons have been affected and about 4,250 are currently displaced; of those, 1,200 are hosted in five collective shelters habilitated by the authorities.
- Four people died, including three children, and about 30 suffered minor injuries.
- Major risk of diseases outbreaks including acute watery diarrhea due to water contamination.
- Needs priorities are shifting from household level lifesaving to community level basic service needs.

## Situation overview

The situation of Ghat municipality, south – west Libya, has been stable since 7 June. The weather has cleared up and water flood levels dropped in most areas after heavy rains shocked the far southwest municipality of Ghat and its peripheries since 28 May. Area 304, Chinese Company area, Bent Libya, Alberket and Fayout were among the areas that have been badly affected. Houses and public infrastructure, including farmlands, roads and schools were severely damaged. The elementary and middle school official exams are still on-hold. The floods resulted in 34 casualties, including four fatalities and 30 minor injuries. Reportedly, there are missing persons who could be trapped by the floods.

Due to water infrastructure damages and contamination there is a high risk of disease outbreak. An increased number of acute watery diarrhea cases were reported, mainly children. To date, 22 confirmed cases have been confirmed. Health and WASH sectors are working together to minimize the risk and respond.

Telecommunication network has been fixed and electricity is operational in some areas of the municipality. Solid waste management, especially of dead animals, and disinfection of boreholes are expected to be of top priority needs.



At least 4,250 people (850 families) are confirmed to have been displaced by IOM/DTM teams. According to the Ghat Emergency Cell and humanitarian partners on the ground, five collective shelters are hosting about 1,200 internally displaced persons; three schools in Ghat city and two schools in Alberket town, 7 km south of Ghat city; while others joined friends and relatives in safer areas. Immediate needs were provided by the Libyan Red Crescent, national and local authorities, and sectors' partners operational in the region. After the initial first days and with the immediate shelter and food needs covered, needs are shifting from household lifesaving to community level basic service provision. Needs pertaining to refugees and migrants need to be identified.

## Humanitarian Needs and Response

Due to the pre-existing needs in Ghat over the past years, situation has been exacerbated with the current floods. Despite limited improvements in the impacted areas, logistics remain challenging and hindered a humanitarian needs assessment. Based on the rapid NFI and market assessment conducted by IOM/DTM, bakeries, food markets and markets in general reported to be closed; however, the Eid holiday needs to be factored. With the weather improvements and the water receding, humanitarian actors are expecting smoother operations in the coming days. OCHA is relocating a national officer to Ghat to work closely with the Emergency Cell and strengthen coordination with local actors and the humanitarian organizations responding to the crisis.

### Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI)

Within the first 72 hours following the flooding in Ghat, assistance was provided to around 700 displaced families in the form of NFI family packages by local and international humanitarian actors. An additional 550 families are currently targeted to be assisted and emergency shelters (130 tents) with capacity for 650 people have been propositioned to cover the needs of displaced population in the opened spaces by UNHCR. Five Collective shelters have been habilitated by the local authorities and humanitarian local and international partners, such as IOM, pre-positioned supplies in Sebha ready to be transported to Ghat in case additional needs are identified. 600 to 1,100 additional families could be assisted.

### Health:

Health facilities and pharmacies were affected by the floods, impacting on the medical service provision. Among the flooded facilities are Ghat hospital and its warehouse. The scale and the damage of the medical equipment and supplies hasn't been assessed yet. National and local authorities have responded to the crisis by sending medical teams and supplies to Ghat affected areas. In addition, health partners provided with basic and supplementary medical supplies, laboratory reagents and cholera kits. Mental health care is also provided for people experiencing trauma. WHO ensured that the disease surveillance and rapid response system is functional.

### Food Security

Food Security partner WFP, through LRC assisted more than 1,200 displaced people in Ghat and Alberket through three community kitchens. WFP pre-positioned food stocks for about 3,300 individuals for 2 weeks. Additionally, WFP will prioritize food dispatches for 2,500 existing beneficiaries of regular General Food Assistance in Ghat. Extra food from Tripoli or Sebha for those newly displaced due to Ghat flood will be dispatched. Moreover, Food Security sector partners are coordinating to complement each other and fill out any gaps related to food needs.

### WASH

WASH partners, in coordination with the General Company for Water and Waste (GCWW), are responding to the situation with the provision of the necessary equipment and supplies according to the needs. Generators, water pumps, water tanks and hygiene supplies including WASH kits, dignity kits and soap bars; have been provided. Water tankers and collapsible water tanks for drinking water will be installed by UNICEF partners in collective shelters or IDPs hotspot

locations. Moreover, a mass cleaning campaign and extensive hygiene promotion activities have started in collaboration with the local authorities. Fumigation is also planned in the coming days to ensure vector control.

### **Protection**

The majority of Ghat residents are Tuareg Amazigh and many of them lack civil documentation. According to protection partners, several families including women, children and people with specific needs (PWSN) are displaced on the open area with limited or no access to protection and humanitarian assistance, which make them more vulnerable. Severe damage of shelters and farmlands are likely to increase the risk of Gender Based Violence; therefore, mobile clinics need to ensure sufficient stocks of post rape care kits and staff to provide psychosocial support. Child protection risks and needs are yet to be identified through a joint rapid assessment, together with urgent incidents such as family separation and child exploitation should be closely monitored across all sectoral intervention and referred to Protection/ CPWG focal points.

About 650 women displaced in the collective shelters are in need of dignity kits. UNFPA and their partners provided 180 kits and an additional 470 are needed. Child protection partners, with the support of UNICEF, will carry on recreational/psychosocial activities for the affected children in the five collective shelters.

### **Education**

Initial information from Ghat Municipality indicates that there are about 6,400 school age children in Ghat and the 22 primary and secondary schools are closed. The floods have damaged six schools; extent of damage is yet to be determined. Priorities will focus on supporting the safe de-watering of the schools and addressing electrical repairs.

### **Logistics**

Ghat is currently accessible by road and air, security permitting. While most of the assistance has been delivered by road, one shipment of humanitarian supplies was transported to the affected areas by air over the weekend (7-8 June), in close coordination with the Ghat Emergency Cell, using commercial flights.

Bearing in mind the current situation, another flash appeal will be only issued in case the situation deteriorates.