

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Humanitarian Needs**  
Overview foresees that 1.3 million people will need humanitarian assistance in 2017.
- The top priority needs for Libya remain health care and essential medicines, protection of the most vulnerable, access to essential goods and services.
- Food supplies are at risk, with WFP forced to scale down operations due to lack of funding.



Abu Salim Detention Center, Tripoli

Photo: UNSMIL

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## UN and partners launch 2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview and Response Planning process

As the conflict in Libya continues to take its toll on the population and economic hardships increase, the humanitarian community gathered in Tunis on 10-11 October for a workshop to assess humanitarian needs and pave the way for 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The workshop was attended by representatives of Libyan national and local authorities (including line ministries, municipalities, local crisis committees), international and national NGOs, members of civil society, and UN agencies, funds and programmes.

Participants to the workshop concluded that **1.3 million people in Libya will still need humanitarian assistance in 2017**. These include people with extremely limited coping mechanisms, with no or low income and limited financial means, displaced people, returnees, and those subject to abuse and exploitation as a result of their legal status, including refugees and migrants.

Partners agreed that humanitarian response in 2017 will prioritize life-saving healthcare and essential medicines, protection for the most vulnerable people, and access to essential goods and services (including food, shelter and non-food items, water, hygiene and sanitation assistance and education support).

Humanitarian response in 2017 will focus on **life-saving emergency interventions** that protect the dignity of affected people, and within a short time span, remedy, mitigate or avert direct loss of life, physical and psychological harm or threats. It was widely recognized that humanitarian response is not a substitute for the Government's responsibility to protect, support and provide for its people, but rather it is a last resort that supports the Government times of hardship and crisis to deliver life-saving assistance to vulnerable people with the most urgent and acute needs. Similarly, humanitarian response does not address development deficits, governance issues, economic crisis or conflict and insecurity. The aim of humanitarians in Libya is to provide short-term remedies, bridging gaps in basic services and utilities, often in the context of the ongoing establishment of longer term political, economic and security solutions.

### KEY FIGURES

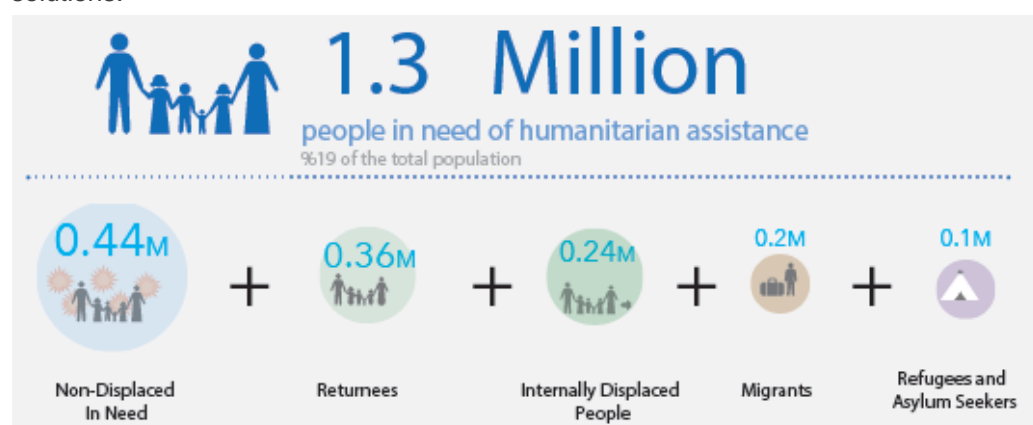
<b>People in need</b>	1.3m
<b>IDPs</b>	313,236
<b>Returnees</b>	462,957
<b>Migrants*</b>	256,690
<b>Refugees and Asylum Seekers</b>	100,569

*\*IOM estimates the actual number of mixed migration flows to be three fold the current number tracked by DTM*

### FUNDING

**172.4 million**  
requested (US\$)

**51.4 million**  
received (US\$)  
(30% funded)



## IOM organizes first humanitarian repatriation flight from Southern Libya

*“Despite all the challenges, this group of migrants is very lucky. Ten minutes after the flight departed, the whole region was blacked out when there was an extensive power cut.” Kamal Al Sherif (IOM Libya’s Operations Team Leader)*

IOM organized its first humanitarian repatriation charter flight from southern Libya to Niger on 6 September, flying 171 stranded Nigerien migrants (including 76 women and 39 children). The flight departed from Taminhint Airport – 30 kilometers from the city of Sabha and 750 kilometers south of Tripoli – and arrived in Niamey, Niger in the evening.



The repatriation took place in close co-operation with the Embassy of the Republic of Niger in Tripoli and the Consulate of Niger in Sabha, the municipal council in Sabha, the Libyan Red Crescent in Sabha and the Department for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM) and it was funded by the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The group of returnees included six medical cases – two with visual impairments and four with high blood pressure. On board was 57-year-old Aminata from the Nigerien Tuareg tribe. She arrived in Sabha in 1993 together with her five children, two of whom died during the tribal war between the Tabu and the Tuareg that ended earlier this year.

*“War took two of my sons, destroyed our house and caused my health problems but until now I could not return to Niger because of my tribal affiliation and the lack of the necessary money to pay for our return,” she explained to IOM. “This trip provides me and my family with a new beginning. We will at least be safe!”*

Many of the returnees on the flight expressed similar experiences that their tribal affiliations prevented them from returning home by land because of the conflict which spread along the road between Sabha and the border with Niger.

## Libyans at risk of food insecurity as WFP struggles to receive much needed funding



September, enough to feed 16,500 IDPs in Tripoli and the surrounding area for one month.

AKS is WFP’s third cooperating partner in Libya, in addition to Shaikk Tahir Azzawi Charity Organization (STACO) and LibAid. These organizations work closely with local

WFP had planned to provide monthly food assistance to 210,000 of the most vulnerable people in Libya this year, including displaced people, host communities, registered refugees and asylum seekers. However, given limited funding, the operation has prioritized assistance to a total of 120,000 of the most vulnerable people. WFP urgently needs US\$8.5 million to continue providing life-saving food assistance to tens of thousands of people in desperate need in Libya until the end of the year.

WFP continues to explore options to expand its operational partnership base in order to ensure that, if conditions on the ground change, it can deliver food to hard-to-reach areas most critically affected by ongoing fighting. In September, WFP began working with a new partner, the Libyan NGO Ayady Al Khair Society (AKS). AKS received 200 metric tonnes of food at the end of

crisis committees, which represent local communities, and provide WFP with information to assess where life-saving food assistance is most urgently needed.

WFP's work in Libya is part of its broader work to establish bold and constructive partnerships between governments, business and organizations that will create the requisite momentum towards achieving Zero Hunger and shaping a brighter future for millions of children.

As WFP's Executive Director, Ertharin Cousin, reminded on World Food Day on 16 October, *"Ending hunger in our lifetimes is possible. We can build a world where everyone, everywhere has access to nutritious food – if we all work together, as partners. Whether in a humanitarian or developmental context, partnerships must be bold, strategic and innovative, and be measured by how they change the lives of the world's most vulnerable people"*.

## Libyan Midwifery Association launches *"Your health is our concern"* campaign to raise awareness of breast cancer

United Nation Fund for Population (UNFPA), in partnership with the Libyan Midwifery Association, conducted a large campaign in Libya on breast cancer screening and prevention as part of the Pink October worldwide celebrations. Most breast cancer cases in Libya are diagnosed at late stage due to lack of screening and prevention programs.



More than 670 Libyan women benefited from screening activities (x-ray mammograms) in several public and private health facilities. Eight positive cases were diagnosed and referred to specialized centers. The campaign started in Tripoli reaching out to Souk Jomaa, Tarhouna, Zleten, Khoms, Garaboli, Misrata, Sebha and Trehen.

The Libyan Midwifery Association will expand the campaign until the end of the year aiming to reach more than 1000 woman all over Libya with awareness raising and education for women on breast cancer and the importance of regular check-ups and early detection.



Six breast cancer survivors volunteered to accompany the Libyan Midwifery Association in their awareness journey. One of them, Ms. Suad, tells that she delayed her medical check-up pretending she was too busy with her family, until the tumor got larger. In her testimonies Ms. Suad urges women above 50 to have a Breast Cancer Screening every two years and learn about prevention. The Libyan

Midwifery Association also partnered with local radio station "Aljawhara" to broadcast in October a short daily podcast on the benefits of the Breast Self-Exam.

Ms. Naguia Nouiji, head of the Libyan Midwifery Association, stresses that *"More than a third of breast cancer cases can be prevented. We hope to increase awareness about breast cancer prevention and, above all, we hope that all Libyan women join us by spreading the word"*.

## Emergency Food Distribution in Abu Salim Detention Center, Tripoli



The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), through its partner International Medical Corps (IMC) started distributing meals to people detained in Abu Salim Detention Center in Tripoli on 28 September.

This operation was conducted as an urgent response to the severe food shortage in the center, reported by center managers. Since the beginning of the operation a total of 5,625 meals (lunch and dinner) have been distributed to 220 detainees, including women and children. Meals contain bread, salad, juice, rice and chicken.

This initiative is part of UNHCR and IMC's emergency mechanism to provide rapid support to detention centers experiencing acute disruption in food provision. The mechanism is set up to provide meals within 24 hours of the notice being received.

## Updates from the humanitarian community

Political instability, ongoing conflict and declining economy have curtailed access to basic services for most Libyans.

**The health system around the country is collapsing:** 80 percent of healthcare workforce, mainly foreign workers, has fled the country; over 60 percent of health facilities have been closed or work on reduced capacity due to infrastructural damage, lack of medicines, medical equipment and medical personnel. This leaves nearly 2 million people (one-third of the population) in need of assistance to access life-saving health services. Moreover, clean water and reliable sanitation services are inaccessible for many, particularly displaced people. Since the beginning of the year, humanitarian partners working in the health sector managed to reach a total of 300,000 people.

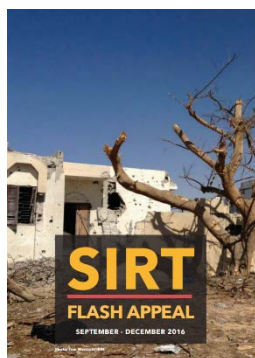
**Food insecurity is on the rise** due to severe disruption of supply routes, damage to critical market infrastructure, limited availability of cash and rising prices. An estimated 1.3 million people require food assistance, and food insecurity among IDPs increased by 11 percent between 2015 and 2016. WFP worked with its partners to reach 114,329 beneficiaries since the beginning of the year.

**Protection violations are frequent** as rule of law and security break down, and armed groups proliferate. Ordinary Libyans are faced with abductions, targeted killings, arbitrary detention, SGBV, displacement, forced recruitment of children, prevalence of Explosive Remnants of War (ERWs). In September 2016 UNSMIL documented 14 civilian casualties during the conduct of hostilities. IDPs who return to their cities, as is happening in Sirt with the advance of anti-ISIL forces, are being killed and injured on a daily basis by ERWs. Civilians remain trapped in areas of conflict, such as Benghazi's Ganfouda, without access to food and medicines. The protection sector accounts for a total number of 75,000 beneficiaries reached through various interventions since the beginning of the year.

**Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers face particular vulnerabilities.** Libya is a country of destination, transit and circular migration and continues to be the main transit and departure point for irregular sea migration to Europe from North Africa. In 2016 over 144,679 refugees and migrants arrived in Italy by sea, many from Libya. During their stay in Libya, migrants are arbitrarily detained in inhumane conditions, and face abuses (summary killings, torture, sexual abuse, extortion, forced labour) both in detention centres and when trying to board boats to Europe. IOM reports that in 2016

3,649 migrants died in the Mediterranean. Humanitarian organizations working in this sector were able to reach 66,000 persons of concern throughout 2016.

For a more in-depth look at the humanitarian situation in Libya and further information on the assistance delivered throughout the country, visit these new products online:



[Flash Appeal for Sirt](#)

[UNHCR Libya, rescue at sea report \(15 September 2016\)](#)

[UNHCR Libya, Dashboard of key activities \(15 September 2016\)](#)

[UNSMIL Human Rights Report on Civilian Casualties \(September 2016\)](#)

[IOM Migration Update and Assistance Overview](#)

[WFP Libya Emergency Dashboard](#)

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