

# LIBYA

31 Mar. – 6 Apr. 2018

### Key figures:

**165,478** Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)<sup>1</sup>

**341,534** returned IDPs (returns registered in 2016 -2017)<sup>1</sup>

#### 51,519 registered

refugees and asylumseekers in the State of Libya<sup>2</sup>

**6,683** persons arrived in Italy by sea in 2018<sup>3</sup>

**360** monitoring visits to detention centres so far in 2018

**983** asylum-seekers and refugees released from detention so far in 2018

**1,342** vulnerable refugees and asylumseekers evacuated since November 2017

## Funding

USD 85 M required for 2018

<sup>1</sup> IOM-DTM Jan.- Feb. 2018. <sup>2</sup> Data as of 31 March 2018.

<sup>3</sup> www.data2.unhcr as of 5 April 2018.

#### Highlights

Over the past weeks, clashes between armed groups in the southern region of Libya have resulted in the displacement of thousands of civilians to safer areas in Sabha (850 families), Ubari (307 families) and Murzuq (413 families). Following a rapid needs assessment and in coordination with authorities and partners, UNHCR has started the distribution of sleeping mats, kitchen sets, hygiene kits, and other non-food items (NFIs) to respond to the humanitarian needs of over 1,500 displaced families (IDPs) currently displaced in the southern region. The humanitarian aid was dispatched in seven trucks from Tripoli.

#### **UNHCR Response**

UNHCR's strategy to support IDPs aims at strengthening advocacy and at promoting access to rights, basic services and solutions for IDPs throughout Libya. As the lead agency for the protection of IDPs, UNHCR has increased its capacity and expanded its partnerships in order to conduct protection monitoring, identify needs and guide effective responses. UNHCR continues to provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs and returnees, including basic assistance in the form of NFIs and cash-based interventions (CBIs).

**On 4 April, UNHCR visited the Tawergha IDP community in Tarhuna (65 km southwest of Tripoli).** The city currently hosts between 4,000 and 4,500 IDP families (over 20,000 individuals) from Sirte, Benghazi, Misrata, Tawergha, and Mashasha. UNHCR visited Tawergha settlements in the city and also consulted the host community to assess the most pressing needs. Access to clean water and sanitation issues are major concerns for both IDPs and the host community. UNHCR conducted focus group discussions and identified potential water and sanitation solutions in order to improve living conditions, benefitting both host community and IDP populations.

On 2 April, UNHCR visited returnee communities in Kikla, in the Nafusa Mountains (130 km southwest of Tripoli), for the second time in 2018. Over 1,600 families have voluntarily returned to Kikla since mid-2015 and are in urgent need of shelter and clean water. UNHCR conducted focus group discussions and identified future interventions with the community. A follow up mission to identify quick impact projects to support hospitals and public infrastructure took place during the same week.

UNHCR's support to host communities, IDPs and returnees in Benghazi continues in coordination with the local authorities. Benghazi is currently hosting over 32,000 IDPs and 174,000 returnees. New quick impact projects are being implemented over the coming weeks to make infrastructural improvements and support persons with specific needs. UNHCR is providing persons of concern with 400 assistive devices, such as crutches and wheelchairs, with the objective of supporting the local social security system. Water tanks, solar street lights and waste management items are also being delivered to enhance the community's infrastructural capacities.

**UNHCR and UNFPA continue to distribute assistance to displaced women and girls in Libya.** After conducting an assessment, a distribution of 8,500 dignity kits is taking place in over 16 locations including Tripoli, Misrata, Sabha, Nafusa Mountains, Bani Walid, Janzour, Ubari and Murzaq. These kits are meant to provide an immediate relief in sites where access to clean water and sanitation is difficult.

# **UNHCR** UNHCR Libya Response in 2018

