

LIBYA

7 - 13 Apr. 2018

Key figures:

184,612 Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)¹

368,583 returned IDPs (returns registered in 2016 -March 2018)¹

51,519 registered refugees and asylumseekers in the State of Libya²

6,846 persons arrived in Italy by sea in 2018³

392 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

¹ IOM-DTM March 2018.

² Data as of 31 March 2018.
³ www.data2.unhcr as of 11 April 2018.

Highlights

On 12 April, Mr. Amin Awad, UNHCR Director for the Middle East and North Africa, visited Tunis and briefed partners, embassies and the media on UNHCR's activities in Libya. Mr. Awad highlighted UNHCR's strengthened response to support internally displaced persons (IDPs). Accordingly, UNHCR has increased its capacity and resources by 300 percent in recent months. Across the country, UNHCR is supporting IDP settlements with humanitarian assistance, including through small-scale community projects, cash assistance and protection activities. In 2018, UNHCR and its partners will implement over 270 quick-impact projects benefiting both IDP and hosting communities. On the refugee response, UNHCR plans to evacuate and resettle some 5,000 vulnerable refugees out of Libya in 2018. Since September 2017 to date, UNHCR has submitted 465 vulnerable refugees for direct resettlement out of Libya. In addition, 1,342 individuals were evacuated to Niger, Italy and Romania. Additional resettlement spaces are urgently required for persons of concern in Libya who remain in need of international protection.

UNHCR Response

On 10 April, UNHCR participated in an inter-agency mission to assess the conditions of IDPs and returnees living in Bani Walid. The mission also visited the Tawerghan informal settlement in Qararat al Qataf (east of Bani Walid). In Bani Walid, UN Agencies met with authorities and civil society organisations to discuss the needs of IDPs. The lack of proper educational infrastructure is a major concern for the community. To support the education sector, UNHCR will implement quick-impact projects in the city, including the provision of desks for local schools to be able to accommodate additional students. In Qararat al Qataf, UNHCR and partners conducted group discussions with persons living in the settlement. Tawerghan IDPs expressed their desire to return home and called for additional support from the international community.

UNHCR continues to distribute humanitarian assistance to respond to the needs of some 1,500 families who were recently displaced in the South. 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, Ubari and Murzuq. UNHCR dispatched seven trucks from Tripoli to Sabha carrying non-food items. So far, aid has been distributed in Sabha, where some 850 families are displaced. Access to Ubari and Murzuq (cities south of Sabha) remains challenging due to security reasons.

As of 31 March, there are 51,519 refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR in Libya. Since January 2018, UNHCR has registered 6,860 individuals, 2,462 of whom were registered during March alone. This number is higher than the total registration represents an increase of 70% when compared to the same period in 2017 and is higher than the total registration figure for 2017 (6,614 individuals). The main nationalities of persons registered this year are Sudanese (59%), Eritrean (17%), and Syrian (13%). Overall, Syrian nationals remain the largest registered caseload, followed by Palestinians and Sudanese. UNHCR is currently upgrading one of its Community Day Centres (CDC) in Tripoli with a view to enhance its registration activities in the country. While renovation works are ongoing, registration activities will be limited to two days per week.

As of 9 April 2018, 4,034 refugees and migrants were disembarked in Libya by the Libyan Coast Guard. The latest three operations took place on 6 and 7 April, when 324 refugees and migrants were disembarked in Tripoli. UNHCR and its partner International Medical Corps were present at the Naval Base and assisted individuals disembarked with medical and humanitarian assistance. UNHCR also identified persons in need of international protection. In line with recent trends, the boats departed from Zwara (100 km west of Tripoli) and Garabulli (50 km east of Tripoli).

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UNHCR UNHCR Libya Response in 2018

