LIBYA

6 June 2023

Key Figures:

- 134,787 Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)¹
- 695,516 IDP returnees¹
- 42,559 registered refugees and asylum-seekers²
- 269 monitoring visits to detention centres so far in 2023

Funding

- USD 70.0 M required for 2023
  - Funded: 39%
  - Gap: 61%

Highlights

On 31 May, more than 100 refugees left Libya for the Emergency Transit Centre (ETC) in Romania, with the logistical support of International Organization for Migration (IOM). In the ETC, the group, including individuals from Sudan, Eritrea, Syria, South Sudan, Somalia, and Yemen, will be processed for their resettlement to Norway. Since 2017, UNHCR has resettled more than 3,400 refugees to Europe, Canada, and Australia. UNHCR is grateful to the relevant Libyan authorities for their support in facilitating necessary formalities for these departures and continues to urge countries to provide more legal pathways to help asylum-seekers and refugees with heightened protection risks reach safety out of Libya.

On 31 May, UNHCR, together with WFP, OHCHR, UNDP, Danish Refugee Council, International Rescue Committee (IRC), and CESVI, participated in an interagency mission led by OCHA to Misrata and Tawergha. The mission aimed to evaluate the ongoing projects and humanitarian support offered to both cities, as well as to identify present gaps which require further planning and assistance.

On 28 May, UNHCR organized a session on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Exploitation at the Community Day Centre (CDC) for the Eritrean community. The session was followed by counselling on the services UNHCR and partners provide and available means of communication to reach UNHCR. Similar sessions will be organized for other communities in the coming weeks.

To celebrate the Mental Health Awareness month, UNHCR prepared a video, underlining the importance of mental health support as a human right for everyone and everywhere.

Population Movements

So far in 2023, more than 6,000 individuals have been reported as rescued or intercepted by the Libyan authorities. During the last two weeks, 12 disembarkations were carried out by General Administration of Coastal Security at Al-Mayada DP, by the Libyan Coast Guard at Marsa Benghaz Port and at Al-Shaab Port, by the Special Navy Forces at Benghaz Port, and by Marine Support Force at Zwara Port, with around 1,800 survivors. Partner IRC attended three disembarkations and provided medical assistance and non-food items (NFIs) to survivors.

UNHCR Response

UNHCR, with partners, continues to provide help and services to asylum-seekers and refugees at heightened risk. During the last two weeks, 37 best interest assessments and 89 protection needs assessments were conducted with children and adults to identify their protection concerns, and assess their needs, including referrals to specialized services. Partner CESVI provided emergency cash assistance to 30 refugee and asylum-seeker households (103 individuals). IRC distributed hygiene kits, blankets, tracksuits, slippers, soap, and jackets to 253 individuals, including 94 women and 53 children, at the CDC. IRC also targeted 185 asylum-seekers and refugees, including 57 women, with the distributions of NFIs in various areas of Tripoli.

During the last two weeks, IRC provided more than 600 general health and reproductive health consultations, around 100 mental health consultations, and referred over 60 individuals to public hospitals and private clinics. IRC medical team also supported more than 70 individuals through the 24/7 hotline, 35 of whom were referred for secondary medical assessments.

At the Serraj Registration Centre, UNHCR identified 27 individuals who have reportedly escaped or been released from trafficking camps. They were all referred for protection interviews to identify their needs and provide the necessary assistance. Under the community-based care arrangement programme of partner CESVI, there are currently around 50 active caregivers, hosting more than 120 cases in alternative care arrangements. During the last two weeks, while four individuals who were identified as in need of shelter were put under care arrangements, one individual was integrated within the community.

UNHCR, in partnership with LibAid, distributed non-food items and hygiene kits to more than 120 detainees in Kufr and Ejdabia Detention Centres. IRC also carried out visits to Triq Al-Sikka, Ain Zara, Triq Al-Matar and AbuSalem detention centres and provided more than 200 medical consultations.

In collaboration with partner LibAid, UNHCR distributed hygiene kits to more than 3,500 displaced people from Tawergha. The distribution targeted more than 600 women, over 200 children and around 2,000 elderly people. The distributions took place in AbuSalem, Tripoli.

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¹ IOM-DTM Aug 2022.
² Data as of 1 June 2023.