



LIBYA OPERATION

UNHCR UPDATE

3 – 12 July 2017

KEY FIGURES

240,188 Libyans currently internally displaced persons (IDPs)¹

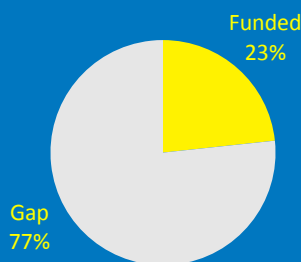
249,298 returned IDPs (returns registered in 2017)¹

42,028 registered refugees and asylum-seekers in Libya

86,101 persons arriving in Italy by sea so far in 2017²

FUNDING

USD 75.5 million required for IDPs and refugees in Libya in 2017



OPERATIONAL UPDATE

On 12 July, together with other UN agencies, UNHCR took part in a one-day mission to Benghazi. This is the first UNHCR international staff mission to Benghazi since 2014. Security issues limited the delegation's movement. UNHCR is now concluding a partnership agreement with a local NGO to continue supporting IDPs, refugees and asylum seekers in the eastern part of Libya. There are currently 42,300 internally displaced people (IDP) and 133,050 IDP returnees in Benghazi¹ and over 6,350 refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR. Through partners, in June 2017, UNHCR provided humanitarian assistance, including cash based interventions, to 540 families (3,000 individuals) internally displaced in and around Benghazi.

RESPONSE UPDATE

A total of 3,481 refugees and asylum seekers were registered by UNHCR so far in 2017. This is twice as many as the total registered for the whole of 2016 (1,850 individuals). In June 2017 alone, UNHCR registered 709 refugees and asylum seekers, based on the seven nationality groups currently recognised by Libyan authorities as coming from refugee producing countries. UNHCR continues to seek access to all nationalities. There are currently a total 42,028 registered refugees and asylum seekers in Libya.

As of June 2017, 8,165 individuals were rescued/intercepted at sea by the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG) so far this year, while 389 bodies were recovered near Libyan shores. The total number of persons rescued/intercepted at sea during the first six months of 2017 decreased by over 10% when compared to the same period in 2016. So far in 2017, the majority of people rescued/intercepted at sea (65%) were disembarked in Azzawya, 21% in Tripoli and the remaining in Zwara, Misrata and Al Khoms.

UNHCR and International Medical Corps (IMC) provided primary healthcare in Triq al Shook detention centre, in Tripoli, to 49 individuals rescued at sea. The group (41 men and eight children) was disembarked in Garabulli (50 km east of Tripoli). It was reported that 81 individuals, including women and children, were declared missing at sea in the same incident. During the reporting period, UNHCR and IMC also conducted a visit to Triq al Sika detention centre in west Libya to check on the health situation following an anti-scabies campaign.

Following UNHCR's intervention, 15 refugees and asylum seekers were released by Libyan authorities (two in Zuwarah and 13 in Al Bayda, 200km east of Benghazi). When visiting detention facilities, UNHCR identify, refer and advocate for the release of refugees and asylum seekers. So far in 2017, 347 refugees and asylum seekers were released, with UNHCR support.

During the week, outreach activities were conducted in and around Tripoli: protection teams visited seven families (34 individuals) to assess needs, including health conditions, and to conduct protection interviews. The main concerns raised related to the need for social services, the lack of financial stability and insecurity. In the two Community Development Centres in Tripoli, UNHCR, IMC and CESVI assisted 524 refugees and asylum seekers, mainly with healthcare support.

On 10 July, a group of seven survivors of violence, who had been held in captivity, departed from Tripoli under the UNHCR emergency resettlement programme. This is the second group resettled in July 2017. IOM facilitated logistics, including exit visas and tickets. A third group composed of another ten individuals is scheduled to be resettled soon.

¹ OIM-DTM as of 29/06/2017

² data2.unhcr.org as of 12/07/2017