

LIBYA

3 January 2023

Key Figures:

143,419 Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)¹

688,121 IDP returnees¹

43,000 registered refugees and asylum-seekers²

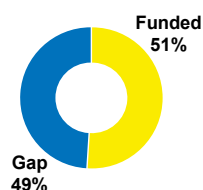
530 monitoring visits to detention centres so far in 2022

447 refugees and asylum-seekers released from detention in 2022

2,008 vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers have departed in 2022³

Funding

USD **70.0** M required for 2022



¹ IOM-DTM June 2022.

² Data as of 1 Dec 2022.

³ Data as of 15 Dec 2022.

Highlights

On 29 December, a ceremony was held to mark the rehabilitation work of Sidi Hussein sewage lifting station in north Benghazi, which was overseen by partner Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The event was attended by the Water and Sewage Company. The lifting station will service the Sidi Hussein neighbourhood, hosting around 14,000 people including refugees and many Libyans who returned after the fighting in Benghazi in 2017. As it was out of service, many roads in the area had to be closed during the rainy season. The work included repairing of the pump, plumbing, tiling, and electrical work, and painting of the building. The project is part of efforts to rehabilitate basic infrastructure in areas previously affected by conflict and in which large displacement occurred.



Work at the Sidi Hussein sewage lifting station. ©UNHCR

On 29 December, UNHCR participated in the joint interagency mission to Misrata and Tawergha in coordination with the Resident Coordinator's Office. In Misrata, the mission met the municipality officials and discussed the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and the key role of municipalities. In Tawergha, the mission met the Local Council and talked about the challenges faced by the community in access to education, health, water, housing, jobs, and the urgent need for durable solutions for IDPs and returnees. The mission also visited some UN projects and two schools which are used as collective shelters by 47 returnee families to listen to their concerns and needs.

Population Movements

In 2022, more than 24,000 asylum-seekers, refugees, and migrants have been reported as rescued or intercepted by the Libyan authorities. Last week, seven rescue/interception operations were carried out with more than 1,000 survivors, among whom were 50 people of concern to UNHCR. On 27 December, UNHCR and partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) teams responded to the operation at Azzawya Oil Refinery Port and provided medical assistance and non-food items (NFIs) to the survivors.

UNHCR Response

UNHCR, with partners, continues to provide help and services to some of the most vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees. Last week, IRC distributed NFIs to 54 individuals, including 12 women and nine children at the Community Day Centre (CDC), and NFIs to 142 asylum-seekers and refugees, including 70 women, in various areas of Tripoli. UNHCR and CESVI distributed cash assistance to 153 families (379 individuals). IRC also provided 220 general health and reproductive health consultations, 42 mental health consultations and referred 11 individuals to public hospitals and private clinics.

As of 25 December, it is estimated that there were 3,489 people in detention centres across Libya, among whom 1,340 were people of concern to UNHCR. IRC carried out visits to Triq Al-Matar and Ain Zara detention centres and provided more than 50 medical consultations. UNHCR, through IRC, also provided NFIs to 172 individuals in Zliten detention centre. Partner LibAid distributed NFIs including blankets, mattresses, gloves, socks, children's shoes, and jackets, to 233 detainees in Guanfouda detention centre.

At the Serraj Registration Centre, UNHCR identified 56 individuals who managed to escape or who were released from trafficking camps. They were all referred for protection interviews to identify their needs and provide the necessary assistance. Last week, eight best interest assessments and 37 protection needs assessments were conducted with children and adults to identify their protection concerns, and assess their needs, including referrals to specialized services. UNHCR outreach team carried out a field visits in Arada, Tripoli. The team assessed the living conditions of the individuals, identified their vulnerabilities, and referred them to the relevant services for the required follow-up and assistance.

UNHCR, with partners, continued to provide cash assistance to internally displaced and returnee families. Through partner ACTED, UNHCR distributed pre-paid cards to 350 internally displaced and returnee families (2,148 individuals) in Derna.

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