

LIBYA

21 February 2023

Key Figures:

134,787 Libyans

currently internally displaced (IDPs)¹

695,516 IDP

returnees¹

42,034 registered

refugees and asylum-seekers²

93 monitoring visits

to detention centres so far in 2023

8 refugees and

asylum-seekers were transferred from detention to urban setting so far in 2023

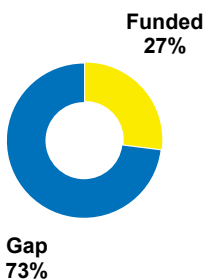
10 vulnerable

refugees and asylum-seekers have departed so far in 2023

Funding

USD **70.0** M

required for 2023



¹ IOM-DTM Aug 2022.

² Data as of 1 Feb 2023.

Highlights

On 14 February, UNHCR concluded a three-day distribution of non-food items in the cities of Ubari (977 km south of Tripoli) and Traghen (912 km south of Tripoli) in South of Libya. In cooperation with partner LibAid, UNHCR provided more than 300 internally displaced families with blankets, mattresses, hygiene kits, kitchen sets, jerrycans, soap, and winter jackets.



NFI distribution in Traghen, South of Libya. ©UNHCR

Population Movements

So far in 2023, more than 2,800 individuals have been reported as rescued or intercepted by the Libyan authorities.

Last week, partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) responded to five disembarkations by the Libyan Coast Guard in Tripoli Naval Base where medical assistance and non-food items (NFIs) were provided to the survivors. UNHCR is deeply saddened by the loss of lives in the tragic accident that took place at sea on 14 February where eleven bodies were recovered, and more than 62 individuals reported missing at sea. Seven people were rescued by a fishing boat.

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 74 individuals, including 29 women and 14 children at the Community Day Centre (CDC). IRC also reached 125 asylum-seekers and refugees, including 56 women, across Tripoli, through NFI distributions. Partner CESVI provided emergency cash assistance to a total of 32 households (69 individuals) at the CDC. Last week, IRC provided 365 general health and reproductive health consultations, and referred 31 individuals to public hospitals and private clinics. IRC medical team also supported 44 individuals through the 24/7 hotline, 17 of whom were referred for secondary medical assessments.

As of 12 February, 3,596 people are estimated to be in detention centres (DCs) across Libya, of whom more than 700 are from nationalities UNHCR is authorized to register. Last week, IRC carried out visits to Triq Al-Sikka, Triq Al-Matar and Ain Zara DCs, where more than 110 medical consultations were provided.

At the Serraj Registration Centre, UNHCR identified 37 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. Last week, 15 best interest assessments and 45 protection needs assessments were conducted with children and adults to identify their protection concerns, and assess their needs, including referrals to specialized services. UNHCR identified seven children with education needs through detailed surveys conducted with their caregivers. Accordingly, they were referred to UNICEF to be supported for their enrolment in public schools or in non-formal education provided at Beyti centres.

UNHCR outreach team carried out a field visit in Ghout Al Shaal in Tripoli targeting a group of Eritrean nationals. Several issues and vulnerabilities were identified, and referrals were made for specialized services according to the identified needs. A follow-up visit will take place in the coming days to do a more thorough analysis. Last week, as part of the community-based care arrangement programme run by partner CESVI, two individuals were placed in care arrangement and four individuals were integrated within their communities. As of 20 February, there were around 50 active caregivers across Tripoli, with more than 110 vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees benefitting from the programme. The vetted caregivers help to host unaccompanied children and women at risk, as well as people with specific medical conditions, on a temporary basis until longer-term solutions are identified.

The child friendly space (CFS) in the CDC, run by CESVI, provides recreational sessions for asylum-seeker and refugee children ranging from the age 3 to 15 who are selected based on vulnerability criteria. Trained facilitators organize two sessions a week for each group of up to seven children for a duration of four weeks. Last week, CFS facilitators conducted a focus group discussion with parents of the children who had attended the sessions at the CFS to receive their feedback and identify gaps. Most parents emphasized the positive behavioural changes they noticed in their children whose relationships improved with their siblings and other children following the CFS sessions, while they also noted the difficulties which they had with the transportation costs for them to bring their children to the sessions.

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