

LIBYA

21 - 31 August 2017

Highlights

Key figures

226,164 Libyans currently internally displaced persons (IDPs)¹

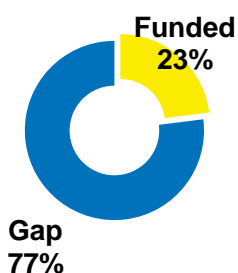
267,002 returned IDPs (returns registered in 2017)¹

42,346 registered refugees and asylum-seekers in Libya

99,011 persons arrived in Italy by sea so far in 2017²

Funding

USD **75.5** M requested in 2017



¹ IOM-DTM June 2017

² data2.unhcr.org as of 31 August 2017

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, welcomed commitments made at the Paris summit on migration and asylum held on 28 August. He noted that he is encouraged by the announcement of a comprehensive plan of action that will support long-term solutions to the complex issue of mixed migration and help address its root causes, in close cooperation with countries of origin and transit, in accordance with international law. He further welcomed the pledge to provide more resettlement opportunities for people in need of international protection from all regions along the central Mediterranean route and to speed up the EU relocation process from Italy and Greece. Other or additional complementary pathways are also needed, including the facilitation of family reunifications.

UNHCR Response

UNHCR and LibAid started the distribution of core relief item (CRI) kits to 1,864 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees in Al-Sabri and Soq al-Hoot (north of Benghazi); both areas were severely affected by conflict over the past three years. Through its NGO partners, UNHCR is in continuous contact with civil society organisations and local crisis committees in the region to identify vulnerable IDPs and returnees in need of humanitarian assistance, including CRI kits and/or cash-based interventions.

UNHCR continues to support durable solutions for persons of concern in Libya, with the departure of 15 refugees under UNHCR's resettlement programme on 28 August. Ten of them were vulnerable women and children who were evacuated on an emergency basis. So far in 2017, UNHCR facilitated the departure of 39 refugees, from Syria, Eritrea and Ethiopia, through UNHCR's resettlement programme or private sponsorship mechanisms to third countries.

UNHCR, as the Protection Sector lead, together with other UN agencies, met with representatives of the Tawergha IDP community to follow-up on their plans to return to their place of origin near Misrata. UNHCR stressed the importance of a safe, dignified, informed and voluntary return. A technical working forum was set-up to plan for "go and see visits", to be operationalized through the Protection Sector with UNHCR's support and leadership.

On 28 and 29 August, UNHCR and IMC provided medical assistance, hygiene kits, slippers and refreshments to more than 430 refugees and migrants (353 men, 44 women and 33 children) rescued/intercepted at sea in three operations by the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG) and disembarked at the Tripoli Naval Base. UNHCR-built shaded areas and sanitary facilities at the disembarkation point provide refugees and migrants with shelter from high temperatures. With these three operations, the total number of refugees and migrants rescued/intercepted by the LCG in 2017 reached to 10,485 individuals representing an increase of 3.7% if compared with data from the same period in 2016 (10,091).

For the first time since February, UNHCR and LibAid visited two detention centres in eastern Libya and distributed CRIs to detainees. In addition, UNHCR and its partner IMC conducted 19 visits to detention centres in the western and southern regions. A new inter-agency anti-scabies campaign is being implemented in Triq al Sika detention centre, and includes the provision of medication, fumigation and CRIs.

Humanitarian access

The UNHCR Representative to Libya travelled to Tripoli to meet authorities and partners. A meeting was organised with the Deputy Minister of Education to jointly identify regions and items for the implementation of quick impact projects. In addition, he held a meeting with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya, Ghassan Salamé, to discuss cooperation and to brief him on UNHCR's programme in Libya.

Key Figures

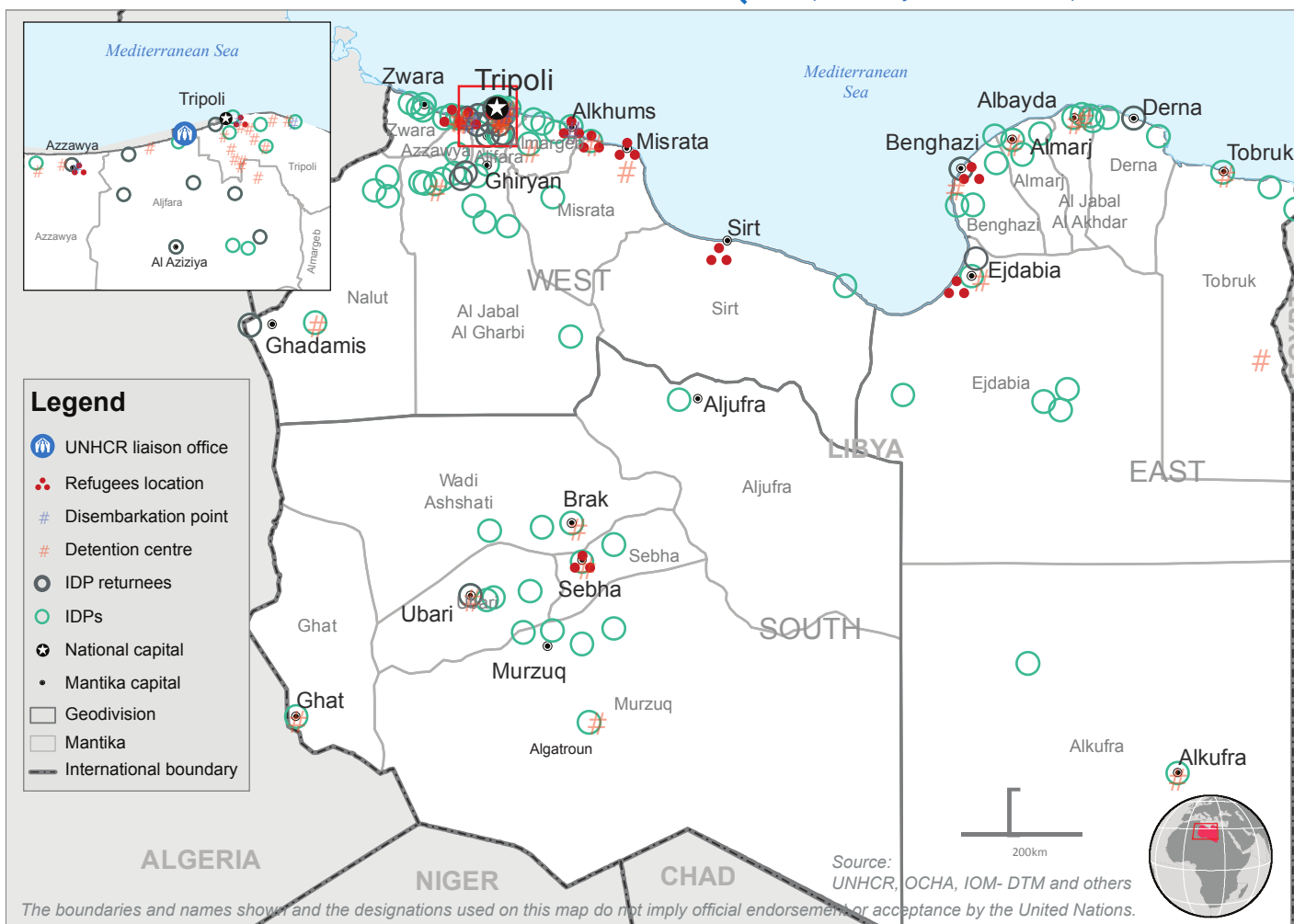
- 535,512** people of concern
- 42,346** registered refugees & asylum seekers
- 226,164*** internally displaced persons
- 267,002*** IDP returnees

UNHCR Coordinated Sectors

- Protection Sector**
- Shelter & NFI Sector**
- Cash & Markets Working Group**
- Mixed Migration Working Group**
(Co-led by UNHCR & IOM)

Key Achievements in 2017

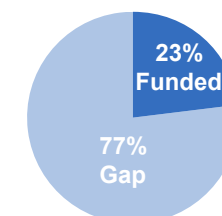
- 21,211** medical consultations
- 14,913** IDPs and refugees received core relief items
- 3,919** individuals registered
- 1,799** rescue kits and **1,998** medical consultations provided at disembarkation points
- 658** monitoring visits to **30** detention centres
- 394** detained refugees/asylum seekers released
- 1,078** IDP and refugee households received cash assistance
- 11** capacity building events for stakeholders



UNHCR Funding Requirements



USD 75.5 million
required in 2017 for Libya
emergency response



* IOM-DTM