

# LIBYA

3 - 9 February 2018

## Key figures

**180,937** Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)<sup>1</sup>

**334,662** returned IDPs (returns registered in 2016 – 2017)<sup>1</sup>

**46,730** registered refugees and asylumseekers in the State of Libya<sup>2</sup>

**4,733** persons arrived in Italy by sea in 2018<sup>3</sup>

**121** monitoring visits to detention centres so far in 2018 (1,080 in 2017)

**310** asylum-seekers and refugees released from detention so far in 2018 (1,428 in 2017)

### Funding

USD **85** M requested in 2018 as part of the Humanitarian Response Plan.

<sup>1</sup> IOM-DTM December 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Data as of 31 January 2018.
<sup>3</sup> www.data2.unhcr as of 8

February 2018.

#### Highlights

In coordination with UN agencies and partners, UNHCR is responding to the needs of some 5,000 internally displaced persons (IDP) from Tawergha who recently attempted to return to their hometown. Following the Presidency Council's decree of 26 December 2017 indicating the start date for the return process, IDP families from the east, south and west of Libya attempted to return to Tawergha on 1 February. Armed groups, apparently opposing their return, blocked them from entering the city. Since then, IDPs have been gathering in the area of Qararat al Qataf (some 50 km southwest of Tawergha), in the city of Tarhuna (65 km southeast of Tripoli) and in Harawa (east of Sirte). While negotiations are ongoing for their return, local civil society organizations have reported needs for shelter, food, baby items, hygiene kits, mattresses, blankets and primary healthcare. UNHCR has led the deployment of a multifunctional team composed of UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, WHO, LibAid and the Bani Walid Association to complete a rapid assessment. Aiming to provide some initial emergency relief, UNHCR partner LibAid has set up more than 100 tents. UNHCR teams and LibAid have delivered 2,000 blankets, 500 kitchen sets, 1,000 hygiene kits, 2,000 sleeping mats, and 200 solar lamps. UNHCR continues to monitor the situation and has set up a warehouse containing non-food items (NFIs) for emergency purposes. On 11 February, LibAid will start distributing NFIs to IDPs currently hosted in Harawa.

On 8 February, the UNHCR Representative to Libya, Roberto Mignone, visited Misrata and met with Libyan authorities, including the mayor of Misrata, partners and civil society organisations to assess the humanitarian needs of refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs, returnees, and host communities. After this meeting, the UNHCR Representative visited an IDP settlement in the city and planned possible activities and interventions to support the population.

#### **UNHCR** Response

So far in 2018, 2,039 refugees and migrants at sea were disembarked in Libya by the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG). The latest operation was conducted by the LCG on 2 February, when 94 refugees and migrants were disembarked in Al Khums. In line with recent movements, the boat departed from the area east of Tripoli near the city of Zlitan. UNHCR and its partner International Medical Corps identified persons in need of international protection and provided primary healthcare and hygiene kits to the disembarked.

UNHCR's quick-impact projects (QIPs) continue to support IDPs, returnees and host communities in Libya. This week, UNHCR began the delivery of water tanks to clinics, public medical facilities and schools in the cities of Sabratha, Azzawya, Zintan, Sirte, AI Jufra, Awal and AI Awiniyah. These projects were jointly identified by UNHCR, authorities and partners. UNHCR delivered electrical heaters and NFIs to 300 IDPs in the Janzur settlement near Tripoli as part of its winterization campaign.

#### Special thanks to major donors:

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# **UNHCR** UNHCR Libya Response in 2018

