

# LIBYA

28 December 2017

## Key figures

**192,762** Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)<sup>1</sup>

**316,971** returned IDPs (returns registered in 2017)<sup>1</sup>

#### 44,306 registered

refugees and asylumseekers in Libya<sup>2</sup>

#### 118,853 persons

arrived in Italy by sea so far in 2017<sup>3</sup>

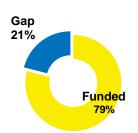
**1,063** monitoring visits to detention centres

1,350 asylum-seekers

and refugees released from detention

### Funding

USD **77.2** M requested in 2017



<sup>1</sup> IOM-DTM November. 2017.
<sup>2</sup> Data as of 30 November 2017.
<sup>3</sup> www.data2.unhcr.org as of 21
December 2017.

#### **IDP Response – 2017 Highlights**

In 2017, UNHCR provided humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees, e.g. through distributing core-relief items to 59,295 IDPs and returnees and undertaking cash-based interventions for over 2,040 households. All UNHCR activities follow a systematic approach including protection mainstreaming taking age, gender and diversity criteria into account. In the east of the country, 23,955 individuals (IDPs, returnees, and host communities) were reached with humanitarian assistance by UNHCR.

**UNHCR started the implementation of quick impact projects (QIPs) throughout Libya**, with an initial raft of 125 projects to be completed by February 2018. QIPs are small, rapidly implementable projects intended to help create conditions for peaceful coexistence between those displaced and their hosting communities, strengthening the resilience of these communities. QIPs also promote the active contributions of refugees and asylum-seekers to the different projects. UNHCR has formed partnerships with **Mercy Corps** (12 projects); **ACTED** (3); **CIR** (10); **Première Urgence** (1); and **Danish Church Aid** (1). More QIPs are planned with additional partners in 2018.

#### Refugee Response - 2017 Highlights

UNHCR scaled up its resettlement and humanitarian evacuations programme, with a view to providing solutions in third countries for the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers. As of 29 December, a total of 659 refugees had been processed for solutions. UNHCR submitted a total of **270 individuals for resettlement** to third safe countries and evacuated **389 refugees** to Niger (227) and Italy (162).

By the end of January 2018, UNHCR plans to have submitted 400 individuals for direct resettlement from Libya, and to have evacuated 700 individuals to the UNHCR Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM) in Niger. In November, UNHCR welcomed the decision by the Libyan authorities to set up a "transit and departure facility" for vulnerable persons of concern to UNHCR. This initiative will expedite the emergency evacuation and resettlement of thousands of vulnerable refugees to third countries.

As of 27 December, the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG) rescued/intercepted a total of 15,238 refugees and migrants at sea. UNHCR's interventions at disembarkation points in Libya have as their primary objective to save lives and ensure the early identification and immediate protection of UNHCR persons of concern, mainly refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR undertook protection monitoring at 12 disembarkation points and provided assistance in six of these (Azzawya, Tripoli (three points), Tajoura (Al Hamidiyah) and Alkhums), including medical assistance through its partner IMC. UNHCR also contributed to improving reception conditions at six disembarkation points, namely through the construction of water and sanitation facilities, health posts and shaded areas to protect refugees and migrants from the elements, including rain and high temperatures. Over the course of the year, some 5,327 sea-rescue kits were distributed at the disembarkation points.

At the detention centres, UNHCR and its partner IMC provide medical assistance. They advocate for release of persons of concern to UNHCR from detention, enhanced access to screenings, identification and registration procedures, and for the implementation of measures to prevent sexual and gender-based violence. The basic assistance UNHCR provided in detention facilities aims at alleviating the suffering of detainees and identifying persons of concern. In addition to interventions at disembarkation points, UNHCR made 1,063 visits to detention centres, during which UNHCR was able to identify persons of concern in need of urgent advocacy, in order to be released from detention. UNHCR advocated with the relevant Libyan authorities to ensure their release and referral to appropriate humanitarian services, including those provided at UNHCR's Community Development Centres in Tripoli. In 2017, 1,350 refugees and asylum-seekers were released from detention following UNHCR's interventions.

# **UNHCR** UNHCR Libya Response in 2017

