

# Humanitarian Bulletin

## Libya

Issue 06 | August 2016



### HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian responders are delivering critical aid to all provinces in Libya.
- Returnee figures are rising, with IDPs continuing to require urgent assistance.
- The top priority needs for Libya remain health care and essential medicines, support to detention centres, migrants, and IDPs.
- Food supplies are at risk, with WFP forced to scale back operations due to lack of funding.



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## Assistance reaches all provinces of Libya

As the conflict in Libya continues to take its toll on the population and economic hardships increase, the humanitarian community has distributed assistance to every province in Libya, including critical food supplies, medicines and healthcare, non-food items, protection and education services.

The response to the displacement from Sirte remains a top priority, with thousands of people still dispersed due to the ongoing military operations to retake the city from Islamic State. As more people return to their homes, concerns grow over the risks they face from explosive remnants of war (ERW) and unstable buildings damaged in the fighting.

Ensuring a steady supply of essential medicines is the most critical activity for humanitarian responders across Libya, as hospitals run out of stocks to treat illness and injury.

Download the 'Libya: Who does What Where' map here <http://bit.ly/2bYR8cv>

### KEY FIGURES

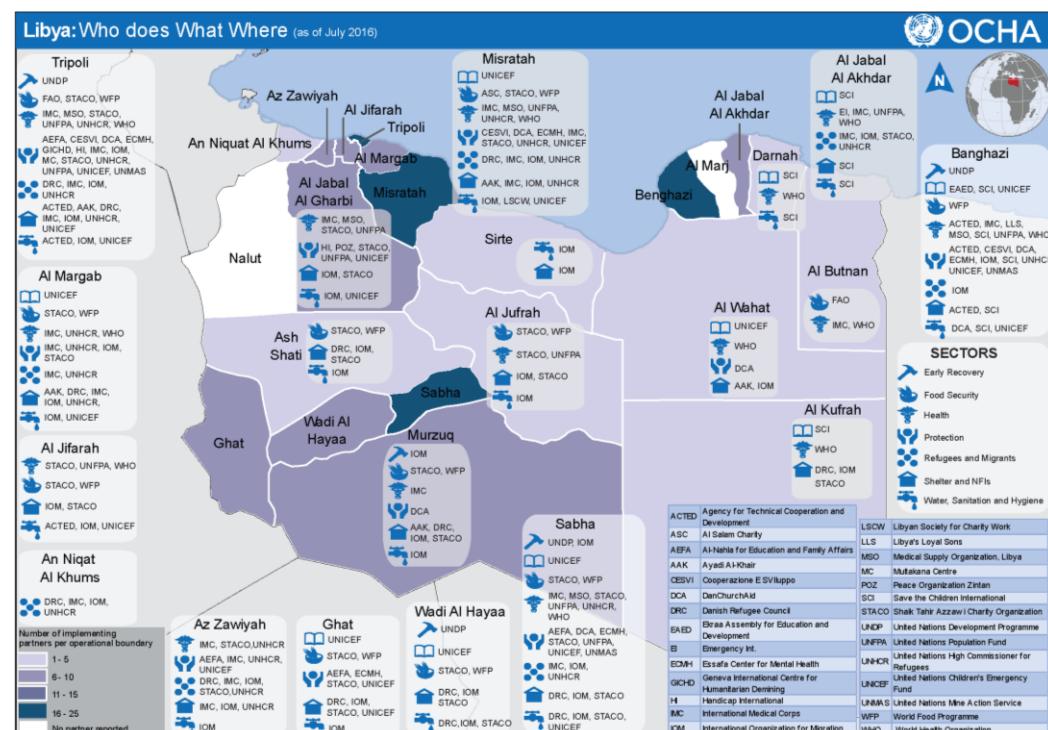
People in need	2.44m
IDPs	348,372
Returnees	310,265
Migrants	276,957

Based on IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix, Round 5 data  
Migrant figures include 38,000 individuals registered as asylum seekers or refugees with UNHCR. The Libya Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) identifies 100,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Libya.

### FUNDING

165.6 million requested (US\$)

48.3 million received (US\$)  
(28% funded)



Source: Sector Groups-Libya, KOKO Toolbox, Weekly Reports

## DTM Round 5: Returnee figures rise as IDPs remain the most vulnerable group

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) DTM Libya has released its Round 5 Mobility Tracking Report, covering the reporting period of July and August. Round 5 maintained geographic coverage and conducted assessments in 533 locations, an increase of 17 locations on Round 4. The report identified and located **348,372 IDPs**, **310,265 returnees**, and **275,857 migrants** in the country. DTM continues to work in close coordination with Libyan and international partners by providing the data necessary to facilitate the planning and delivery of humanitarian assistance for the most vulnerable populations in Libya. For the full dataset, summary tables, maps, and Round 5 analytical report, visit [www.globaldtm.info/libya](http://www.globaldtm.info/libya)

*For the first time, DTM's Mobility Tracking module has collected information on the primary needs for IDPs in each mahalla (location), with country-wide aggregated results indicating that NFIs, medical services and shelter as the three most frequently cited primary needs in Libya today.*

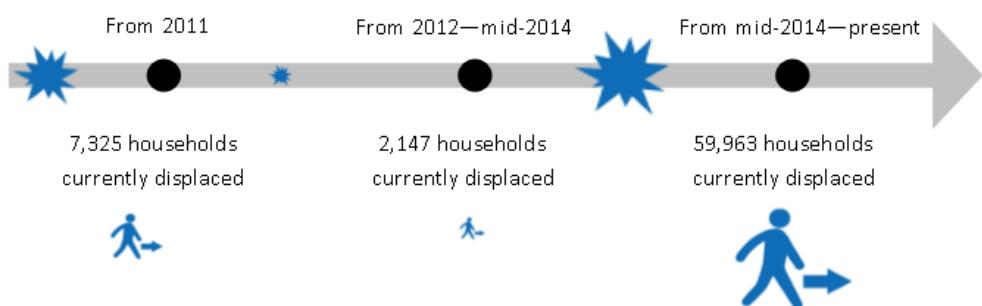
## Displacement in Libya: A look inside the DTM Round 5

### Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

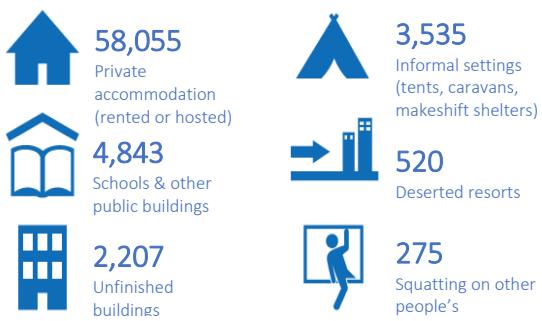
The DTM Round 5 findings show that 86 per cent of the 348,372 IDPs (69,435 households) currently displaced in Libya fled their homes between July 2014 and the present.

The main areas where IDPs are residing are Benghazi, Bani Waled, Ajdabiya, Abu Salim (Tripoli) and Al Bayda, and most frequently cited areas of origin for the majority of IDPs across Libya are Tawergha, Sirte and Benghazi. While 84 per cent of IDPs are residing in private accommodation, either renting or being hosted with others, the remaining 16 per cent are currently in public settings, most heavily concentrated in schools, informal settings (tents, caravans and makeshift shelters), and unfinished buildings.

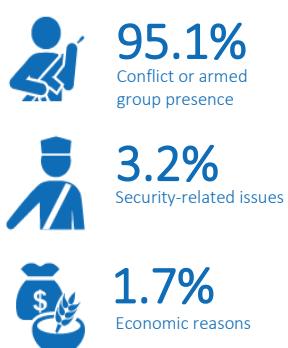
### Timeline of IDP displacement in Libya, 2011 to present



### IDP shelter types (by number of households)



### Drivers of IDP displacement



### Growing numbers of returnees

In Round 5, the number of returnees increased significantly, largely due to the additional 35,500 individuals recorded as returning to Benghazi since Round 4. Derna, Az Zawiyah, Gwalesh, Sabha, As Sidr and Kikla also saw large numbers of returnees in this reporting period. The numbers of IDPs identified in Round 5 consequently decreased, especially in Benghazi, and also in Tobruk, Tripoli, Az Zawiyah and Derna. Damaged and destroyed infrastructure and delays in repair, insufficient security, and the presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to be the main challenges impeding IDPs from returning to their homes.

### Migrant figures increase by five per cent

The number of migrants identified in Libya has remained relatively stable, increasing by 5 per cent since Round 4. Seventy-nine per cent of migrants are reported to be residing in private shelter types, 18 per cent in public places such as gathering points, unfinished buildings, tents, caravans and makeshift shelters, and approximately two per cent are reported to be in detention centres around the country. The most frequently reported countries of origin for migrants are Niger, Egypt, and Chad.

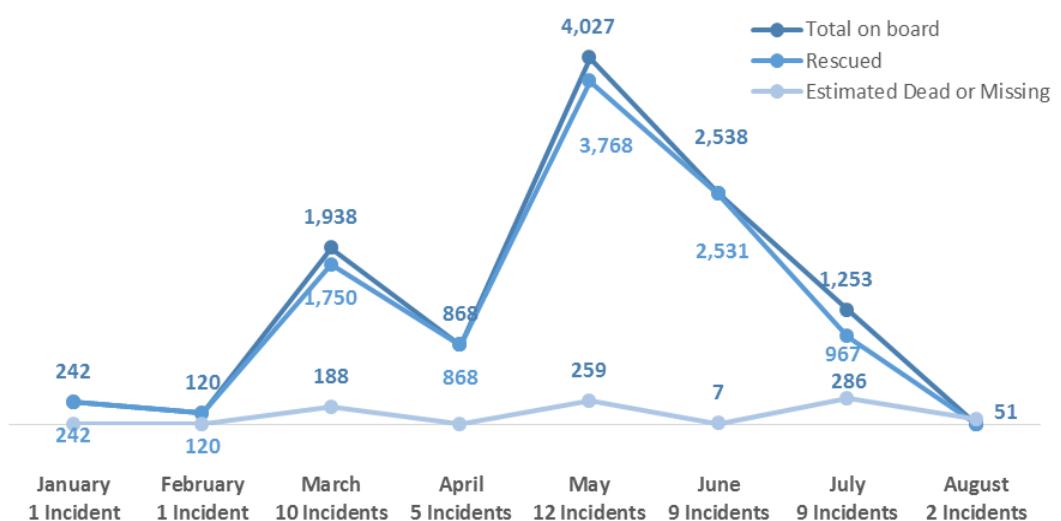
Note: IOM defines a migrant as any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a state away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of the person's legal status, whether the move was voluntary or involuntary, reasons for movement or length of stay. The Libya Humanitarian Response Plan estimates that there are 100,000 refugees and asylum seekers in Libya.

## A deadly year for migrants: 2,021 drowned or missing in maritime incidents

Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers continue to risk their lives off the coast of Libya on the perilous sea journey towards Europe. In 2016, 2,021 people are estimated to have died or gone missing at sea, and over 9,000 have been rescued (as of 10 August, 2016).

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) lead the way in providing protection services to migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in Libya, including humanitarian assistance, protection advice, and IOM's highly successful voluntary repatriation programme.

### Maritime Incidents Recorded in Libya, 2016



**The Catch-up Classes programme is run by UNICEF national implementing partner, Organization Breezes for Sustainable Development, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education in Benghazi.**

*The programme is unique in Libya, and highly regarded by the children, parents and teachers. In 2016, UNICEF scaled up its partnership with Breezes Organization and aims to reach 3,100 out-of-school children. To date, 750 out-of-school children are enrolled in the Catch-up Classes, of whom 150 are children with disabilities.*

## Catch-up classes give hope to children with disabilities in Benghazi

Shadi is 11 years old and comes from Benghazi. He was born blind. Like many other children from Benghazi, the conflict has severely disrupted his schooling and made it more difficult for him to access specialized programmes that are inclusive of children with disabilities.

The UNICEF supported Catch-up Classes programme enabled Shadi as one of 30 children with disabilities to enroll in the programme in Benghazi between the months of September 2015 and January 2016. During his first three days, Shadi was helped by his classmates to move around the school and get to his classes. After five days, he was able to move independently and has become one of the highest achievers of the programme.

According to recent data from education authorities, 558 schools across various regions of Libya are classed as nonfunctional, affecting approximately 279,000 school-age children. UNICEF estimates that 101,334 primary school children and 23,704 secondary school children are affected by the crisis in Benghazi. The Catch-up Classes programme began as a pilot project in 2015. It provides opportunities for students with disabilities to learn alongside other children who have not been able to attend school because of conflict and displacement. Through the programme, students are given the opportunity to complete what they have missed in the curriculum in a condensed manner, after which they return to regular schooling to continue their education with their peers.



Shadi and classmates ready to attend class / Photo: UNICEF Libya/Breezes

## Reaching vulnerable IDPs in Benghazi: 500 families receive NFIs

Benghazi hosts more internally displaced persons (IDPs) than any other city in Libya and also happens to be the city from which the largest numbers of IDPs originate.

Mass displacement into and out of Benghazi has stripped many families of the basics they need to run their households. As a result, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has embarked on a major distribution programme to provide vulnerable families with essential non-food items (NFIs) through its local partner LibAid.

From its IDP database, LibAid selected the families most in need based on defined vulnerability criteria. They prioritized large families, families with female heads of household, and families hosted in schools or camps. In mid-July, enough blankets, solar lamps, jerry cans and kitchen sets arrived in Benghazi to meet the needs of 500 families composed of 4,250 people.

LibAid used SMS to contact the families, setting a precise collection date for them to visit the distribution centre. An average of 50 families per day passed through the centre, with distribution completed on 11 August.



Photos: UNHCR

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*WFP requires US\$9.5 million in order to continue distributing food until the end of 2016. Without new funding, WFP will further reduce the number of people it is feeding, all of whom urgently require food assistance.*

## Life-saving food assistance at risk as a widowed mother seeks to provide for her family in dignity



Photo: WFP

Hadeel describes the day intense fighting forced her to leave her house in Benghazi, in eastern Libya. Fighting became so violent so suddenly that she and her four children had to flee, leaving behind all their belongings. They are now moving from place to place looking for shelter.

"As a recently widowed mother, I am struggling to find a respectable solution

for myself and my family," she said from a WFP distribution point in Benghazi. For now, Hadeel does not have to worry about how to feed her children: WFP provided her with two boxes filled with wheat flour, rice, pasta, chickpeas, tomato paste, vegetable oil and sugar. The food is enough to feed her family for one month.

WFP's work in Libya risks severe disruption due to underfunding. As of today, WFP has received only 42 per cent of its funding requirements for 2016. These funds have been used to procure and distribute food, but in August WFP had to adjust its planning figures based on the resources available and scale down its targeted number of people reached from 190,000 to 120,000. Despite this, WFP continues to provide life-saving food assistance, reaching 113,500 people in need in June and 79,820 in July.

## Public health intervention: Emergency assistance on bird flu management

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is working to assist the Libyan Veterinary Services to stop the spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and reduce its negative impact on human health and food security.

HPAI, more commonly known as "bird flu", was first reported in Libya in March 2014 and has affected poultry and domestic birds across the country. HPAI has also had a dramatic impact on farmers. In 2015, more than 10 suspected outbreaks were reported monthly, and in the Tobruk area alone more than 109 suspected outbreaks led to the death of more than 140,000 birds. Since December 2014, HPAI has caused the death of at least four people. The disease has caused significant economic losses estimated at more than US\$10 million.

A further spread of HPAI in Libya would increase the risk to public health and the livestock sector, not only in Libya, but also in the region. Given the fragile state of Libya's health system, fuelled by the ongoing conflict and critical shortages of medical supplies and qualified health practitioners, FAO is prioritizing emergency assistance to Libyan technical specialists to strengthen the management of the disease.

From 5 to 11 August, FAO held a "Training of Trainers (ToT)" workshop in Djerba, Tunisia. Participants included Heads of the Regional Centres of the National Centre of Animal Health-Libya, Central Epidemiological Unit and the centre's communications focal point. The training covered epidemiology, value chain disease management techniques, biosecurity and communication. The ToT training is set to expand locally and reach a target of 300 local vets and technicians.

*ERW impacts humanitarian access, provision of basic services, the stabilization process and the daily lives and livelihoods of those in affected areas.*

## The real impact of explosive remnants of war: Returnees tell of daily dangers

Explosive remnants of war (ERW) are deadly and indiscriminate consequences of conflict; they do not distinguish between women, children, internally displaced persons (IDP), or humanitarian volunteers. ERW, including improvised explosive devices (IEDs) are constant threats that worsen as the conflict escalates, and linger long after the hostilities have subsided.



After conflict subsides, many buildings are uninhabitable because of the dangers of ERW. The bomb remnants shown are just one kind of ERW. Booby traps and IEDs are sometimes less obvious, especially inside ruined buildings like these in Sirte / Photos: UNMAS

### **“A quarantine zone”**

**The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the National Authority (LibMAC) and its international and national mine action partners are extremely concerned with the protection needs of IDPs like Hanin and Emad who are choosing to return to their homes.**

*Safe return includes knowledge of what you are returning to, your level of personal safety and access to basic services. Civilians who volunteer for mine action take on a noble, but extremely dangerous task. UNMAS and its international mine action partners are providing thorough and appropriate training and equipment to national security institutions and nation NGOs to enable some mine action activities to continue. Urgent funding is needed to assist people in the same situation as Hanin and Emad.*

Hanin is a medical student in Benghazi; she is an IDP who has faced multiple displacements, and is now living in an area of Benghazi where the conflict has subsided. “IEDs and ERW are one of the biggest problems facing my city,” says Hanin. “Having my house in [a contaminated] area hugely impacts my life on a personal level. I cannot access the entire neighborhood, with IEDs and ERW scattered so vastly that it now looks like a quarantine zone for different shapes and forms of explosives.”

Hanin describes the constraints people face because of the ERWs/IEDs that lie uncleared or undiscovered. “These items are the biggest concern for me when it comes to my daily activities,” she says. “They force restrictions on everyone in the area to stay away from the houses they abandoned during the war - small alleys, wide open areas or even the backyard of the houses they live in.”

### **“The level of contamination is enormous”**

Emad is a young volunteer from Benghazi who left his house in El Laithy. “When the conflict first stopped we were too scared to go back [to our house] since there were a lot of IED accidents,” he says. “People attempted to go back to their houses and didn’t realize that their front door was booby trapped. Now we are back home but still not feeling safe as the level of contamination is enormous.”

Emad says many people were injured or have died due to ERW and IEDs in Benghazi, including volunteers who attempted to provide assistance. “A girl from our neighborhood lost her hand when she was playing with a bullet. ERW is deadly!”

Returnees often take the risk to return home, tired and vulnerable after staying in temporary accommodation or camped in school buildings and other informal locations. “I see IDPs who have lived in a school for a very long time move back to their houses without any clearing,” says Emad. “They would prefer to risk their lives and go back to their homes than to stay another night in an unprepared class room in a school, where students study on one floor and others live on the second.”

Living among ERW has taken its toll on Emad and his family. “The contamination prevented us from going to our favorite mosque, from visiting our relatives. We are now required to drive up to 500 miles, instead of 140, to visit our parents; we are now avoiding too many roads, scared for our lives. I stopped going to university and I am not receiving my Accountant Degree anymore because the university is in a conflict zone. Most importantly, I had to do something to minimize the risk that civilians are facing – so I received an incomplete training and joined a clearance team.”

## Message from the Humanitarian Coordinator on World Humanitarian Day

On the occasion of World Humanitarian Day (WHD), the Humanitarian Coordinator for Libya, Mr. Ali Al-Za'tari, has expressed hope that the crisis in Libya will be overcome in 2017. In a video message to mark the day on 19 August, Mr. Al-Za'tari describes the humanitarian tragedies suffered by 2.44 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in Libya, and in particular the crisis in the health sector, and the hardships faced by refugees, migrants and detainees. Watch the video online [here](#).



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For an even more in-depth look at the humanitarian situation in Libya, and further information on the assistance delivered throughout the country, visit these new products online:

[IOM Libya Humanitarian Support to Migrants and IDPs Situation Report | July 2016](#)

[UNHCR Libya – Registration Monthly Fact Sheet | 10 August 2016](#)

[UNICEF Libya Humanitarian Situation Report | July 2016](#)

[UNICEF Libya Humanitarian Situation Report | Mid-Year 2016](#)

[WFP Libya Country Brief | June 2016](#)

[REACH Multi-Sector Assessment | June 2016](#)

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