

## Libya: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Crisis - Situation Report No. 56

---

Original published date: 10 Sep 2011  
Country: Libya  
Theme: Coordination, Education, Food and Nutrition, Health, Logistics and Telecommunications, Protection and Human Rights, Water Sanitation Hygiene  
Content format: Situation Report  
Language: English  
Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was prepared by OCHA Libya. It covers the period from 8 to 10 September 2011. The next report will be issued on 12 September.

### I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Large quantities of unsecured ammunition and abandoned ordnance found around Tripoli, posing a threat to civilians
- Local authorities in Brega have named food as the top priority for assistance as the population starts to return  
Rehabilitation of damaged schools underway before start of school year on 17 September

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs:

To learn more about OCHA's activities, please visit <http://unocha.org/>.

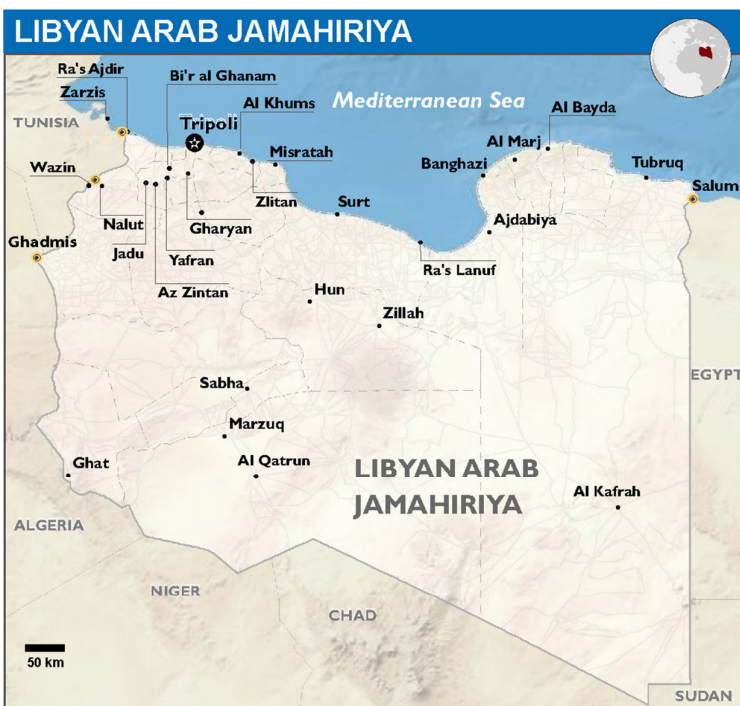
11 Sep 2011

*This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was prepared by OCHA Libya. It covers the period from 8 to 10 September 2011. The next report will be issued on 12 September.*

## I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Large quantities of unsecured ammunition and abandoned ordnance found around Tripoli, posing a threat to civilians
- Local authorities in Brega have named food as the top priority for assistance as the population starts to return
- Rehabilitation of damaged schools underway before start of school year on 17 September

## II. Situation Overview



The most pressing humanitarian issues are in the protection and health sectors. The presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW) in conflict areas remains a major concern, particularly as people return to former conflict areas. The Joint Mine Action Coordination Team is deeply concerned about the large quantities of unsecured ammunition and abandoned ordnance found around Tripoli. Work with the local authorities has commenced in order to remove the ERW from the public domain.

### Inter-agency Mission to Brega

Brega (southeast of Benghazi) experienced heavy fighting for a number of weeks. The security situation has now calmed, with no indication of ongoing clashes. On 8 and 9 September an inter-agency mission took place to assess the humanitarian situation in the town. Very few people remain in the town. The pre-conflict population of Brega

was around 3,000 families. Of these, 1,200 families did not originate from the town and have returned to their places of origin. Of the remaining 1,800 families, 1,000 remain in displacement, 400 families have returned, and the remainder have not been recorded by the authorities and their whereabouts are unknown.

There were visible signs of fighting in the town. Some houses have been damaged by shelling, the only hospital in town was not functioning, and electricity is cut because the main power station is damaged. There is no major humanitarian crisis in the city, as the bulk of the population had left the town and, as basic services are resuming, people have started to return, at a rate of around 50 families per day.

During the inter-agency mission to Brega, food was named as the top priority by the local authorities. The team observed that shops had started to open, providing most of the basic food needs for the population remaining in the town. However, should the rate of return increase, shops may not be able to meet the increased demand. In addition, institutions in the town lack the capacity and resources to provide adequate basic services.

### III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

#### PROTECTION

The Protection Cluster is in the process of developing a strategic response plan to improve protection for migrants and refugees. This plan is being developed in partnership with the NTC. The plan contains immediate and urgent recommendations relating to arbitrary arrest and detention of migrants, restrictions on freedom of movement, lack of shelter and other issues. There have been unverified reports of migrants being refused medical treatment at hospital. The Cluster is also undertaking joint planning with the local authorities on a process for internally displaced people (IDP) profiling and assessment in the Tripoli area.

The Child Protection Working Group is making an advocacy plan with the NTC in Benghazi to provide youth with constructive alternatives to militia activities, including providing opportunities for civic engagement. This will be a major priority in the post-conflict environment.

#### Mine Action

The Joint Mine Action Coordination Team (JMACT) has undertaken assessments of Brega, Ras Lanuf, Zlitan and Dafniya. The assessment missions confirmed a heavy presence of explosive remnants of war (ERW). JMACT will work with local communities to provide training and demarcation materials so that minefields in these areas can be marked. The military in Brega is conducting clearance of minefields along the coast. As civilians return to the town, the risk posed by ERW is increasing. INGOs are due to start mine risk education activities within the next week, risk education will be conducted in coordination with the local authorities.

In Misrata, mine action teams are working with ACTED to conduct a survey and clearance of ERW in 14 schools, in order to enable the schools to open in time for the start of the school year on 17 September.

Two mine action teams are due to arrive in Tripoli on Monday. JMACT is deeply concerned about the large quantities of unsecured ammunition and abandoned ordnance found around the town. Work with the local authorities has commenced in order to remove the ERW from the public domain.

#### HEALTH

The key health priorities across the country are treatment of conflict-related injuries, equitable access to essential health services, security of health facilities and health staff, and functionality of health facilities (water and sanitation, electricity, drugs, safe blood and consumables). In addition, post-conflict early recovery planning for the health system is now emerging as a major health priority.

In Tripoli, Cluster members continue to provide staffing, management, training and supply support to hospitals throughout the city. Assessments of mental health, psychosocial support and gender-based violence needs are underway, and further training to strengthen local capacity is planned. As in other parts of the country, there are continued reports of shortages in medical supplies. To mitigate these shortages, 23 tons of medicine has been delivered to Tripoli from Tunis.

In addition, Cluster members continue to provide support in the Nafusa Mountains (Nalut, Kabaw, Jadu and Zintan). Care for conflict casualties has decreased in these towns, as the situation has calmed in the surrounding areas, but general medical and maternal health consultations have increased. A mental health and psychosocial support team from an INGO have conducted psychological first aid training for 29 participants.

In the areas of Sirte and Bani Walid, where fighting is ongoing, INGO health teams are prepared and prepositioned to respond to the anticipated increased number of war-wounded from these areas. Near Bani Walid, support is being provided to a field hospital and ambulances are being equipped to provide medical evacuations. In addition, two medical teams are being deployed to the east of Sirte.

The inter-agency mission to Brega found that the hospital is partially damaged. Prior to the conflict, the hospital was partly funding as it was under maintenance. It was serving people from Brega town and five surrounding villages, with a total population of between 55,000 and 60,000. It has 80 beds available. There is only one General Practitioner available, who commutes between Benghazi and Brega. He conducts first aid, treats people with minor injuries, and provides treatment for acute illness. Most patients are transferred to Ajdabiya or Benghazi hospital. There are no nurses and no ambulances. In order to ensure functioning of the hospital there is a need for significant rebuilding and maintenance to the building, return of staff (physicians and nurses), ambulances, medicines and other hospital equipment.



## WATER SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

From 29 August to 10 September, UNICEF has distributed 3.7 million litres of water to cover the needs of 100,000 people in Tripoli. Three million litres of water are scheduled to arrive in Libya on 12 September from Spain. Part of this will be diverted to Misrata (due to arrive on 12 September), where a contingency stock will be made for distribution Bani Walid and Sirte, once the security situation in these places allows for humanitarian access. The decision to divert part of the shipment to Misrata comes as a preparedness measure, following unverified reports that Sirte has received no tap water supply for the last 3-5 days.

The inter-agency mission to Brega found that water is available in Brega. The central water system is not damaged and 92 per cent of houses are connected to this system. Some houses were not receiving tap water, because of damage to the piping system at the household level. However, it is possible for the whole population to collect water from the reservoir in the town. Pumping of sewage to the treatment plant has been disrupted, leading to overflow and stagnant ponds of black water.



## EDUCATION

The education working group is working closely with the Libyan education authorities in preparation for the re-opening of schools at the start of the school year on 17 September. Today UNICEF met with the head of the Libya Stabilisation Team and the business community to develop an action plan for the coming days. There are a number of remaining challenges to address before the start of the school year, including mapping damage to school infrastructure and carrying out rehabilitation, ensuring schools are safe and cleared of any explosive remnants of war, and making sure children are provided with adequate learning materials. The commercial sector has been unable to import goods as usual over the past months, meaning that there is a shortage of education materials.

There are approximately 1.5 million children of school age in Libya who are due to return to school in September. Some of these children have had traumatic experiences during the conflict. Psychosocial support and special attention to overcome these experiences will be required.

The inter-agency mission to Brega found that schools are unlikely to reopen at the start of the school year on 17 September. Of the 12 schools in the town, four have been seriously damaged during the conflict. In addition, only 20 per cent of schoolteachers have returned to Brega.



## LOGISTICS

The Logistics Cluster, under the leadership of WFP, is active in Tripoli and has provided support to the WASH Cluster in procuring and delivering bottled water to the city and the Health Cluster in delivering medical supplies. It has also ensured the delivery, by sea and land, of food and other basic items to Tripoli and surrounding towns, Misrata, Zlitan and the Nafusa Mountains.

The cluster has offered to ship humanitarian partners' consignments from Malta to Benghazi, Tripoli, Misrata and Sfax. The consignment capacity is 700 metric tons. The WFP-chartered ships can also accommodate passengers if requested. The cluster is organizing a customs clearance workshop to familiarise logistics officers with custom procedures and requirements.

UNHAS continues to offer air passenger transport services. As of 11 September, flights will commence connecting Djerba, Malta, Tripoli and Benghazi. Further details about accessing these services and the latest schedule are available at <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/lby11a/unhas-schedule-and-forms>. The limit for personal luggage is 20kg. Additional cargo may be requested by filling out the Service Request Form.

The Cluster is providing free bonded storage in Malta Freeport for transit cargo. For more information about this service, please contact [northafrica.cargo@logcluster.org](mailto:northafrica.cargo@logcluster.org). For general information about the Logistics Cluster, including on warehousing and transport services (air, sea and road), please visit: <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/lby11a>

## IV. Coordination

OCHA is coordinating with humanitarian partners to undertake harmonised needs assessment activities in previously inaccessible areas. These assessments will inform the development of a 90-day plan of action, which will cover activities until the end of the year.

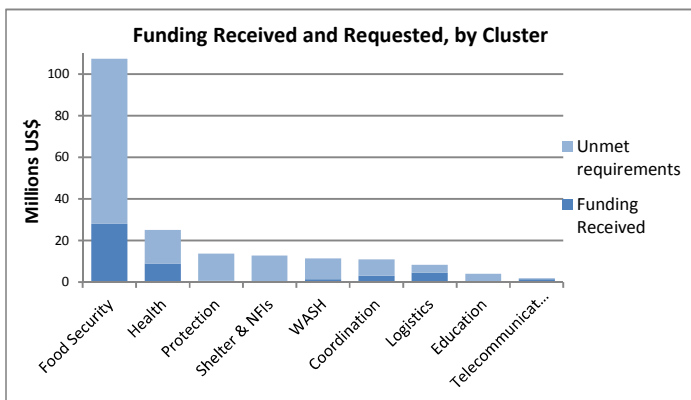
The coordination meeting schedule in Zarzis and a new meeting schedule is being prepared for Tripoli. The coordination meeting schedules for Benghazi and Zarzis, and Cluster and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) contact lists, are available at <http://libya.humanitarianresponse.info/>.

OCHA Libya is producing a daily humanitarian media monitoring service. The service provides an overview of the Libya crisis as portrayed in the worldwide media, including: news agencies, newspapers, Arab Satellite TV, websites, social media and press releases by humanitarian organisations. If you wish to subscribe to the media monitoring service, visit: <http://bit.ly/jD4HDr>.

All humanitarians working in Libya are strongly encouraged to subscribe to OCHA's mailing list, which is also used to produce a contact directory to support coordination in Libya. <http://bit.ly/oiQrTr>

## V. Funding

The Flash Appeal has been extended for a month until the end of September 2011. It is funded at **59.6 per cent**, with **\$243 million** received out of the \$407 million requested. The chart (right) provides a breakdown of funding received and unmet requirements by cluster (excluding multi-cluster, which is 67 per cent funded). Donations have also been recorded to projects outside the appeal, with a total of **\$140 million**. This brings the total recorded humanitarian funding for the Libya crisis to **\$383 million**.



OCHA has an incomplete picture of funding donated outside the Flash Appeal. To ensure coordination of resources, please advise the Financial Tracking Service ([fts@un.org](mailto:fts@un.org)) of all funding and in-kind donations. The [Financial Tracking Service](#) shows daily updates of funding for this appeal and other humanitarian response to the Libyan crisis.

## VI. Contact

### OCHA Libya:

M. Ramesh Rajasingham, Head of Office a.i.  
[rajasingham@un.org](mailto:rajasingham@un.org)

Brendan McDonald: Deputy Head of Office  
[mcdonaldb@un.org](mailto:mcdonaldb@un.org) +218 92892 5310

Rebecca Tustin: Reports Officer  
[tustin@un.org](mailto:tustin@un.org)

### OCHA New York:

Julie Belanger: Officer-in-Charge, Europe, Central Asia and Middle East (ACAEME) Section Coordination Response Division, [belanger@un.org](mailto:belanger@un.org)

Stephanie Bunker: Spokesperson and Public Information Officer, [bunker@un.org](mailto:bunker@un.org) +1 917 367 5126

Moira Little: Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Europe, Central Asia and Middle East (ACAEME) Section Coordination Response Division, [littlem@un.org](mailto:littlem@un.org) +1 (518) 429 6910

### OCHA Geneva:

Thierry Delbreuve: Humanitarian Affairs Officer  
[delbreuve@un.org](mailto:delbreuve@un.org) +41 (0) 22 917 1688

Elisabeth Byrs: Spokesperson and Public Information Officer  
[byrs@un.org](mailto:byrs@un.org) +41 22 917 2653

For more information, please visit:

<http://ochaonline.un.org>

[www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)

[www.irinnews.org](http://www.irinnews.org)

To be added or deleted from this sit rep mailing list, please e-mail: [ochareporting@un.org](mailto:ochareporting@un.org) or visit: <http://ochaonline.un.org>