

2018

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW

SUMMARY

PEOPLE IN NEED

1.1M

DEC 2017

A black and white photograph of a young boy with dark hair, wearing a striped t-shirt, standing in a classroom. He is holding a piece of chalk and writing on a chalkboard. The background is slightly blurred, showing other students and desks in the classroom.

LIBYA

Photo: UNSMIL/AbelKavanagh

TOTAL POPULATION OF LIBYA

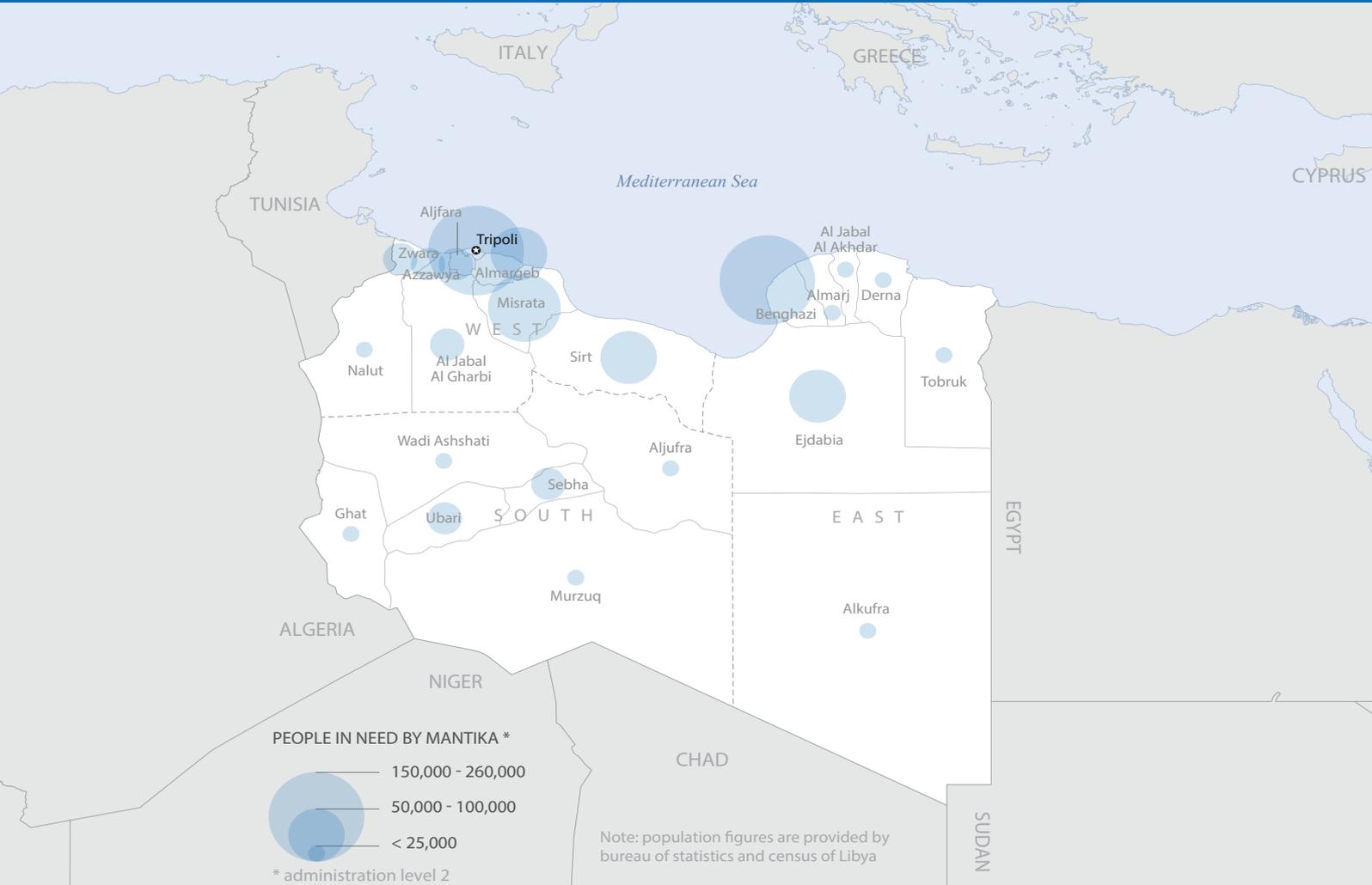
6.5M

PEOPLE AFFECTED

1.6M (25% of population)

PEOPLE IN NEED

1.1M (17% of population)



MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS

The following population groups in Libya have been identified by humanitarian partners as most in need of life-saving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance.



People living in conflict-affected areas



Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers



Persons with chronic diseases, disabilities and mental health issues



Returnees during first three months of return



Over-burdened host communities



IDPs in rented accommodation and collective centres



Pregnant women



Female-headed households



Children



Youth

HUMANITARIAN

NEEDS

Since mid-2014, fighting in populated areas continues across Libya, leading to civilian casualties, damage to civilian infrastructure and displacement. In the last 12 months, an estimated 1.62 million people¹ have been directly affected. According to the latest UN and partners' needs analysis, 1.1 million people, of whom 378,000 are children and 307,000 are women of reproductive age (15-49), require life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection.

In 2017, more than 80,000 people returned to their home communities. To date, there are still around 217,000 internally displaced people in Libya, while some 278,000 people have returned to their places of origin.²

Libya continues to be the main point of departure for people attempting to cross the Mediterranean. IOM reports that, as of 26 October, at least 2,824 people have died or gone missing in the attempt to cross to Europe by sea in 2017. Arrivals report exploitation, abuse, sexual violence, discrimination, unlawful killings and torture in Libya by armed groups, including those affiliated to State institutions. They have no, or limited, access to services and live in fear of capture and arbitrary detention. Libya is also a destination country for migrants on temporary economic and circular migration routes from neighboring and West African countries. Over 400,000 migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in Libya are particularly exposed to abuse and human rights violations as proliferating, armed groups engage in smuggling, trafficking and exploitation.

Recent developments have provided some momentum to a stalled political process, but with no clear solutions as the country remains divided between rival administrations, leaving national and local institutions largely unable to provide protection and basic services. The economic situation continues to deteriorate, further eroding both the authorities' ability to provide services and as well as the livelihoods of communities and families. Living conditions are worsening as cash, food, fuel, water, electricity, health care and public

services and supplies become increasingly scarce. Weak rule of law is leaving vulnerable civilians and marginalised groups unprotected. Armed groups, including those affiliated to the State, continue to unlawfully detain thousands of Libyans and foreign nationals in substandard conditions, where they are vulnerable to torture and other abuses.

Contamination by explosive remnants of war (ERW) and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) as a result of the ongoing conflict are threatening the lives of civilians and hampering the ability of the humanitarian community to carry out humanitarian activities.

¹ Libya affected (directly or indirectly) population is an estimate of population living in one kilometer radius of conflict events (ACLED database) recorded between August 2016 to September 2017.

² DTM Libya round 12, August 2017. Although more recent data is available at the time of publication, round 12 DTM was the most updated information at the time of the HNO analysis.

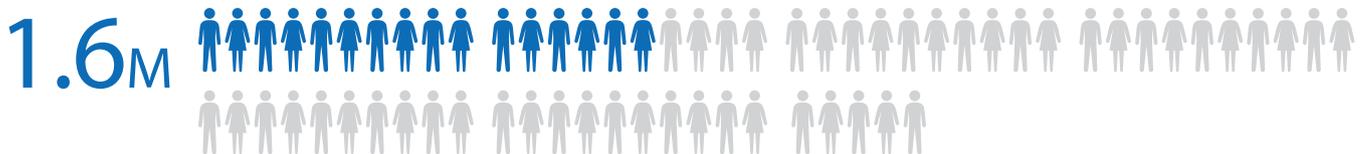
HUMANITARIAN

KEY FIGURES

TOTAL POPULATION



NUMBER OF AFFECTED PEOPLE



PEOPLE WHO NEED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

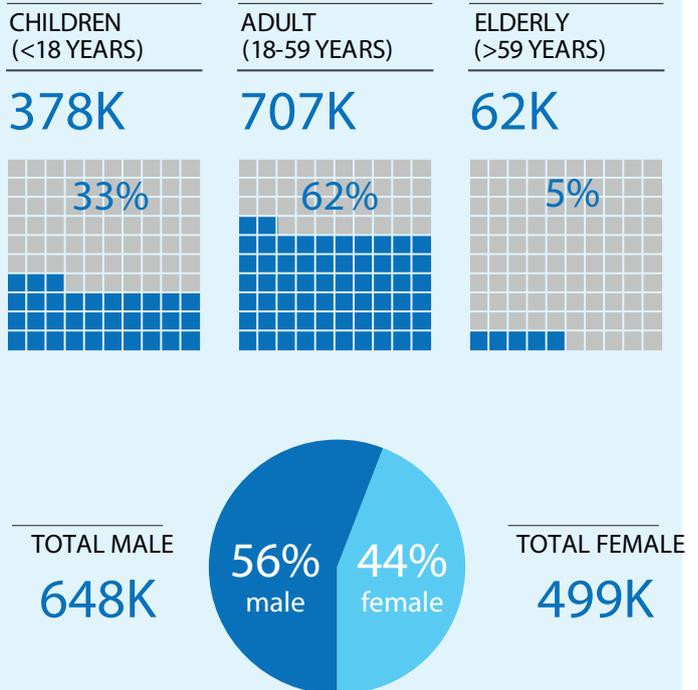
04



BY POPULATION GROUPS



BY AGE & SEX



IMPACT OF THE

CRISIS

The humanitarian crisis in Libya is largely defined by 1) pockets of acute needs prompted by outbreaks of violence, shifts in territorial control and the local power of armed groups, 2) migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers suffering from grave abuses in official and non-official detention and exposed to extreme risks while in Libya; and 3) an environment of deepening vulnerability for the population at large, with a rapid deteriorating economy and public sector. These three dimensions are all rooted in a protection, basic services, economic and governance crisis that has engulfed the country since 2014.

Pockets of acute needs prompted by violence and shifts in territorial control

In the last 12 months, ongoing conflict has directly affected an estimated 1.62 million people across Libya. The affected population have continued to face critical protection challenges, including risk of death and injury due to indiscriminate use of weapons, freedom of movement restrictions and conflict-related psychological trauma. Violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, including violations of children and women's rights, are widespread, including but not limited to various forms of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), unlawful killings, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances and torture and other ill-treatment.

Civilians continue to be killed and maimed: according to the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED) this year alone, 1,289 people were killed.¹ From 1 January 2017 to 30 September 2017, UNSMIL has documented at least 128 deaths and 164 injuries among civilians. Given limitations on access and information flow from conflict-affected areas, the actual casualty figures are very likely to be significantly higher.

Attacks on health care facilities and medical personnel continued across the country, including in Azzawya, Benghazi, Tripoli, Sebha and Derna, affecting the wellbeing of patients, the provision of health services and the livelihoods particularly of women, who constitute 56 per cent of employees at hospitals across the three Libyan regions.² The Service Availability and Readiness Assessment (SARA)³ carried out by WHO and the Ministry of Health for all public health facilities, found that 17.5 per cent of hospitals, 20 per cent of primary health care

facilities and eight per cent of other health facilities were not operational due to damage, lack of maintenance, inaccessibility and occupation by people and entities. The availability of some essential health services is particularly limited.

The presence of the Islamic State (IS), of Al-Qaeda-affiliated terrorist groups, foreign fighters and mercenaries, the trafficking of arms and the cross-border black market economy are challenges which extend across Libya's borders and impact its neighbours and the wider international community.⁴

Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers at extreme protection risk

The movement of refugees and migrants across the Sahara desert and the Mediterranean Sea towards Europe continues to have a devastating toll on human lives. As of 26 October, at least 2,824 people have died or gone missing in the attempt to cross to Europe by sea in 2017. Many others are thought to have died on their way across the desert in the hands of smugglers and traffickers. Since the beginning of the conflict, there has been a lack of oversight and institutional capacity in managing migration, with no system of checking or regularising stays, including through the issuance of legal documentation. In order to live, work, and have access to basic services, migrants must have necessary documentation. Whilst the majority of migrants and refugees enter Libya irregularly, some migrants enter Libya in possession of appropriate travel documents, but they are unable to renew these documents when they expire.

Migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers who are stuck in Libya often suffer abuses, torture and other ill-treatment in

1 ACLED conflict and protest data for African states from 25 August 2016 to 15 September 2017. The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) is a publicly available conflict event dataset designed for disaggregated conflict analysis and crisis mapping. This dataset contains information on the dates and locations of all reported political violence events in over 50 developing countries, with a focus on Africa. The data are drawn from news reports, publications by civil society and human rights organisations, and security updates from international organisations.

2 Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, 22 August 2017

3 Service Availability and Readiness Assessment (SARA) is a six-month survey completed in February 2017

4 Remarks of SRSR Ghassan Salamé to the United Nations Security Council, 28 August 2016

detention.¹ Often they cannot access services and people detained in these centres suffer from poor hygiene standards, diseases, lack of food and safe drinking water. Trafficking and smuggling rings operate freely and 'slave market' conditions have been reported in Tripoli and Sebha. Alarming cases of rape and physical abuse of female and male migrants, including in the official and unofficial detention centres, have been well documented. Almost 40 per cent of refugees and migrants interviewed in 2017 reported rape and sexual abuse, although unreported figures are likely to be far higher. Some women report being advised by traffickers to use a contraceptive injection before transiting through Libya, indicating how widespread and entrenched this violence is. Beyond the immediate risks the migrants face, the revenue smuggler networks are generating from irregular migration is developing into a direct threat to stability in parts of Libya.

An environment of deepening vulnerability for the population at large

The country remains divided between rival administrations, leaving national and local institutions largely unable to provide protection and basic services. The economic situation continues to deteriorate: inflation, the devaluation of the Libyan dinar on the black market and an acute cash liquidity shortage in the banking system have all led to reduced purchasing power of the Libyan population - especially those already affected by the conflict, further deepening vulnerabilities. Living conditions

have deteriorated as availability of food, fuel, water and sanitation, electricity and medical supplies decrease and the provision of health care and public services declines. Libya's health care system struggles to deal with casualties from the conflict, rising diseases and illnesses. Weak rule of law is leaving vulnerable civilians and marginalised groups unprotected.

Operational challenges

The humanitarian response has been hindered by ongoing hostilities and, widespread insecurity. Since the evacuation of UN international staff from Libya in 2014, the UN has operated primarily remotely out of Tunis, although most humanitarian agencies have international and national staff, consultants or third-party contractors in-country. With the anticipated lifting of the evacuation status, UN humanitarian agencies are preparing to re-establish permanent presence in Tripoli in the first quarter of 2018. The return of humanitarian agencies to Tripoli will be a significant step, but humanitarian presence is required beyond Tripoli, in the east and south of the country, to address acute needs as well as to counteract perceptions of uneven assistance that may arise from the return to Tripoli. In addition, the unpredictable security environment, the multiplicity of interlocutors and armed actors, the unclear bureaucratic requirements in the country pose challenges for humanitarian actors looking to deliver conflict-sensitive assistance. OCHA continues to support the sectors and the broader humanitarian community in building acceptance and trust with multiple interlocutors on the ground.

BREAKDOWN OF

PEOPLE IN NEED

Over the last year the total number of people in need in Libya has slightly decreased from 1.3 million people to 1.1 million. Within the overall 1.1 million in need there are ten population groups who are considered particularly vulnerable and are likely to face a convergence of needs and heightened protection risks.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED BY SECTOR

	BY STATUS				BY SEX & AGE*		TOTAL
	IDPs	Returns	Migrants/ refugees/ asylum- seekers	Host Communities	% female	% children, adult, elderly*	Total people in need
 Food security	60K	93K	141K	343K	41% 	31 64 5% 	0.63M
 Water, sanitation & hygiene	132K	139K	105K	294K	42% 	32 63 5% 	0.67M
 Protection	125K	188K	400K	334K	44% 	33 61 6% 	1.04M
 Health	170K	200K	310K	375K	44% 	33 61 6% 	1.05M
 Shelter & NFI	130K	200K	210K	41K	36% 	26 70 4% 	0.58M
 Education	67K	79K	32K	121K	49% 	100 0 0% 	0.30M

This document is produced on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team and partners.

This document provides the Humanitarian Country Team's shared understanding of the crisis, including the most pressing humanitarian needs and the estimated number of people who need assistance and protection. It represents a consolidated evidence base and helps inform joint strategic response planning.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



<http://www.unocha.org/country/romena/country-profile/libya>



www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/libya