



HIGHLIGHTS

30,000

IDPs received humanitarian aid since August 2014

5,673

Persons provided assistance and NFIs following rescue at sea or inside immigration detention centres in 2014

13,497

Persons received medical assistance in 2014

Population of concern

A total of **431,258** people of concern

Refugees and Asylum-Seekers

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) as of 17 Dec 2014*

By country of origin

By region

| Country | Total PoCs |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Eritrea | 4,687 |
| Iraq | 3,105 |
| Palestine | 5,300 |
| Somalia | 2,392 |
| Sudan | 2,123 |
| Syria | 18,710 |
| Other nationalities | 667 |
| TOTAL | 36,984 |

| Region | Total IDPs |
|--|----------------|
| Southwest and Western region (Tripoli, Gheryan, Zawiya, Surman, Tarhouna, Bani Walid, Ajaylat) | 182,994 |
| Misrata, Ras Lanuf, Slooq, Gulf of Sidra | 56,850 |
| Eastern region (Benghazi, Tobruk, Ajdabiya, Al Marj, Al Bayda) | 90,000 |
| Southern region (Awbari/Ghat) | 24,430 |
| Tawerghans displaced or re-displaced throughout the country | 40,000 |
| Total | 394,274 |

* Numbers are estimated displacement (source: Local Councils and NGOs)

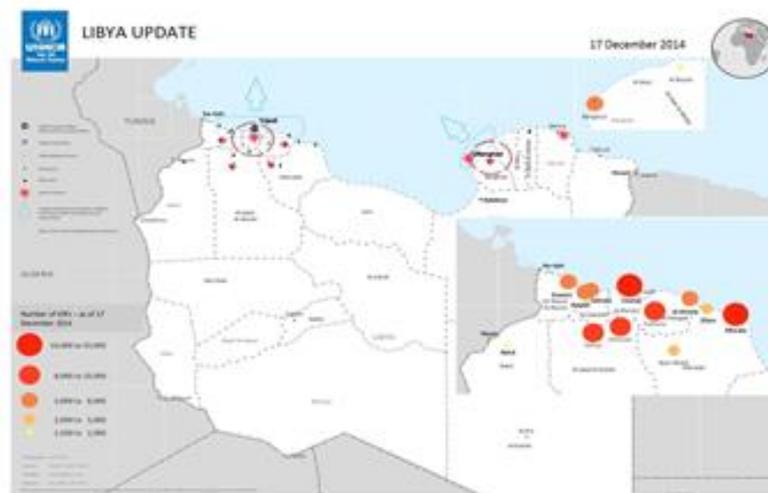
UNHCR Presence

Staff:

32 national staff and 5 international staff

Offices:

2 offices located in: Tripoli and Benghazi



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Following the outbreak of fighting in Tripoli in mid-July 2014, UNHCR initiated and leads the Libya Protection Working Group (PWG) for UN agencies and NGOs working temporarily in Tunisia. The PWG is aimed at coordinating protection activities and responses to the humanitarian needs inside Libya. Previously, UNHCR chaired the Detention Working Group, which coordinated the distribution of relief items inside migration detention centres and served as an advocacy platform for alternatives to detention for refugees and asylum seekers, particularly women and children. The work of the Detention Working Group has been absorbed into the PWG.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- UNHCR is working to expand the protection space in Libya by increasing registration and refugee processing activities, and by promoting national asylum legislation. UNHCR Libya core activities include:
 - Regular protection monitoring to identify, register, and document persons in need of international protection.
 - Assistance to refugees in terms of education, health, psychosocial counselling, financial assistance and legal assistance, through implementing partners Cooperazione E Sviluppo (CESVI) and International Medical Corps (IMC).
 - Identifying and providing support to people with heightened protection risks, including unaccompanied minors, victims of trafficking and other extremely vulnerable individuals who entered Libya using irregular channels and/or were rescued at sea.
 - Training on core protection principles and refugee law in the context of mixed-migration for government officials, civil society and other actors.
 - Advocating with Libyan authorities to improve conditions inside migration detention centres and adopt protection-sensitive approaches, including respect for the principle of non-*refoulement*.
 - Monitor the protection situation in sites hosting internally displaced populations across the country.

Humanitarian Assistance

- Of major concern to UNHCR is the growing number of refugees and asylum seekers using Libya as a transit/departure point for migration to Europe, as well as the systematic detention of refugees and asylum seekers inside the country. UNHCR works with the Department to Combat Illegal Migration within the Ministry of Interior to provide core relief items and medical assistance to detainees arrested for irregular entry into Libya or following rescue at sea efforts.

As a first response to the humanitarian needs resulting from the ongoing fighting in Libya since July 2014, UNHCR sent the first humanitarian convoy to western Libya in August 2014 to help some 12,000 displaced people in the town of Zawiya. Since then, UNHCR has delivered medicine and medical supplies, sleeping mats, mattresses, school bags, kitchen sets, hygiene kits and other non-food items to some 30,000 IDPs in western and southern Libya using 4 convoys. In February, UNHCR sent pre-packed medicine and medical supplies to the Benghazi Medical Centre to treat some 20,000 people for three months.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR promotes and facilitates durable solutions, including resettlement, family reunification and voluntary repatriation for vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers at risk, such as unaccompanied children and female-headed households.
- UNHCR supports the reconciliation process so IDPs may be able to return to their habitual place of residence.

Priorities and Challenges

- Ensuring safe humanitarian access into Libya in order to resume planned protection activities and respond to humanitarian needs on the ground remains a priority for UNHCR.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers stranded inside Libya may try to seek asylum elsewhere should violence escalate. UNHCR encourages neighbouring countries to keep land borders open to those fleeing violence and seeking international protection.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly-earmarked contributions to UNHCR, as well as to donors contributing directly to the Libya operation via the CERF.

Photo above: On behalf of UNHCR, Libyan NGO Tomazeen provides core relief items to Tuareg IDPs in southern town of Ghat, @M.Akelah

Contacts:

Samer Haddadin, Acting Chief of Mission, haddadin@unhcr.org, Cell +216 58 335 115

Dunnapar Fern Tilakamonkul, Associate External Relations Officer, tilakamo@unhcr.org, Cell +216 58 335 123