

LIBYA

16 August 2019

268,629 Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)¹

444,760 returned IDPs¹

50,821 registered refugees and asylum-seekers²

4,240 overall persons arrived in Italy³

810 monitoring visits to detention centres

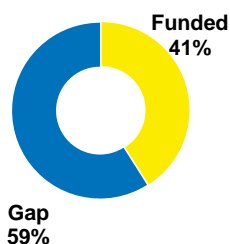
1,661 refugees and asylum-seekers released from detention

1,005 refugees and asylum-seekers currently hosted in the Gathering and Departure Facility (GDF); **2,280** individuals transited through the GDF since Dec. 2018

4,418 vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers departed since November 2017

Funding

USD **88.1** M required for 2019



¹ IOM-DTM May 2019.

² Data as of 14 August 2019.

³ www.data2.unhcr as of 13 August 2019

UNHCR is deeply **saddened** by the passing of three UN colleagues in **Benghazi, Libya, on 10 August 2019**. Their dedication will always be remembered. Their memory will always be honoured.

Population movements

As of 16 August, over 5,280 refugees and migrants were rescued/intercepted at sea by the Libyan Coast Guard during over 70 operations in 2019. So far in August, 753 refugees and migrants disembarked at the Tripoli Naval Base (322 individuals), Al Khums (262 individuals), Azzawya (123 individuals), Zwara (46 individuals). The latest disembarkations took place on 13 August, when 282 refugees and migrants were disembarked in Al Khums (142 individuals), the Tripoli Naval Base (92 individuals) and Azzawya (48 individuals). UNHCR and its partner the International Medical Corps (IMC) assisted those disembarked with primary healthcare and core-relief items (CRIs) before they were transferred to a detention centre by the authorities. Recently, boats have departed from areas west of Tripoli near Sabratha, or areas east of Tripoli near Garbulli and Al Khums. UNHCR reiterates that Libya is not a safe country for disembarkation.

Over the past days, nearly 6,700 individuals have been displaced (IDPs) because of the conflict in Murzuq, southern region. The majority of IDPs are currently staying with host families and private accommodation in Sebha, Ubari, Wadi Etba, Al Gatroun, Taraghin and safer areas in Murzuq. Over 400 IDPs are also hosted in collective shelters. The main pressing needs are related to healthcare, medical supplies, food, WASH and CRIs. UNHCR is planning to distribute CRIs targeting 1,000 persons in the coming days.

UNHCR response

There are 4,900 refugees and migrants currently held in detention centres in Libya, out of whom 3,500 are of concern to UNHCR. Nearly 3,100 refugees and migrants are held in detention facilities near conflict-affected areas. UNHCR is advocating for the gradual closure of detention facilities and the release of all refugees and migrants into urban areas. UNHCR is stepping-up its response capacity in urban areas to support refugees released from detention with assistance such as cash assistance, medical and psychosocial support.

The Gathering and Departure Facility (GDF) hosts 1,005 persons. With the GDF at full capacity, transfers from detention centres remain blocked. Currently, the facility is hosting Eritrean (57 percent), Somali (19 percent), Sudanese (18 percent) and Ethiopian (4 percent) nationals. UNHCR stresses the urgent need for humanitarian evacuations out of Libya.

UNHCR, IMC and CESVI continue to assist urban refugees and asylum-seekers at the Community Day Centre (CDC) in Tripoli. Last week, UNHCR and partners assisted over 450 refugees and asylum-seekers with primary healthcare, psychosocial support, CRIs and cash. So far this year, UNHCR provided over 6,340 medical consultations and distributed cash assistance to over 600 refugee families.

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