

HIGHLIGHTS

- US\$120.7 million funding gap still exists for activities under the 2016 HRP.
- More than 89,000 people benefited from life-saving medicines and medical supplies provided by WHO across Libya.
- 6,770 MT of food for more than 113,000 people distributed in October but funding gaps remain.
- 304 migrants voluntarily repatriated in October to Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya and Gambia.
- UNICEF delivered 1.8 million doses of polio vaccinations to the Ministry of Public Health for the upcoming vaccination campaign aiming to target 1.5 million children.
- Azzawya, Benghazi and Derna remain areas of concern due to ongoing fighting.



In this issue

- 2017 HRP priorities P.1
- Child-friendly spaces in Bani Walid P.2
- Reducing avoidable delays in delivery of medicines P.2
- NFIs distributed in Benghazi P.3
- WFP support to reducing food insecurity P.3
- Repatriated migrants tell their stories P.4
- In brief: Humanitarian updates and response P.5

2017 Humanitarian Response Plan prioritises life-saving priority needs across Libya

Civilians in Libya continue to suffer as a result of ongoing conflict, political instability and a deteriorating economy and social services. The resulting humanitarian impact has affected hundreds of thousands of people across the country that are living in unsafe conditions with little or no access to life-saving health care assistance, essential medicines, food, safe drinking water, shelter and education. Out of a total population of 6.4 million, the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) has identified a total of 1.3 million people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. This includes Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnees, most vulnerable non-displaced Libyans, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

Drawing from analysis in the HNO, the 2017 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) will prioritise the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable people across Libya, including non-displaced in need, IDPs, refugees and migrants. The HRP will strictly prioritise immediate life-saving interventions, while the international community and Libyan partners continue to work towards more sustainable political, economic and security solutions.

Working closely with Libyan counterparts, interventions in 2017 will focus on the provision of safe and dignified access to health services and essential medicines, as well as other basic services such as food, water, hygiene, sanitation, shelter and education, and to protect the most vulnerable Libyans, migrants and refugees.

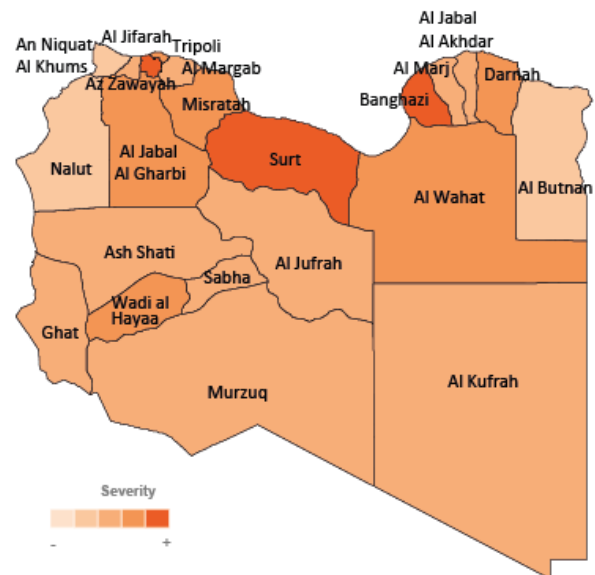
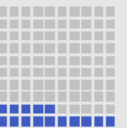
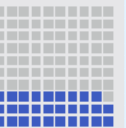
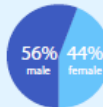


Figure: Severity of Needs

Key Figures

Based on findings from the HNO, the following have been identified as People in Need:

INTERNALLY DISPLACED	RETURNEES	REFUGEES	MIGRANTS	NON-DISPLACED	TOTAL MALE	TOTAL FEMALE
241K	356K	100.6K	195K	437K	751K	579K
						

FUNDING

172.4 million
requested (US\$)

51.7 million
received (US\$)
(30% funded)

Bani Walid: Child-Friendly Spaces restore normalcy for children affected by conflict

The UNICEF programme for establishing child friendly spaces in Bani Walid is funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Mohamed, 9 years and Jana, 7 years were born in Sirt to a farming family. However, successive rounds of conflict had forced them to flee their home and find shelter in Bani Walid, a town a few hundred kilometres away from their home. *"We had a big white house and I used to have my own scooter"*, recalls Mohammed.



The family rented a house in Bani Walid and started a new life in a place where they could be safe again. At the beginning, it was extremely difficult for the two children to understand and cope with their new situation. Their world had suddenly changed, losing their friends and toys.

One day Mohammed and Jana's parents heard about a new initiative for internally displaced children in Bani Walid. Open every afternoon, this child-friendly space offered a wide range of programmes and recreational activities, including drawing, reading, writing, sport, and swings and slides. Mohammed and Jana's parents decided to register their children.

At the beginning Mohamed and Jana were shy and did not socialise with the other children. But as each day went by, they started fitting in and feeling more confident to play and interact with the other 160 children (128 boys and 32 girls) participating in the activities. They got engaged in activities and made many drawings, helping them release the frustration and sadness.



Now, during their free time Mohammed and Jana play with their new friends. The programme has helped them reestablish a sense of normalcy and to build a similar life to the one they used to live before the conflict. Their new friends have helped them to feel much more open and secure.

The child friendly space, located in the Bani Walid Higher Institute of Electronics, was established by Cesvi and Assabeel Foundation, in partnership with UNICEF. The space aims to provide conflict-affected children and their families' with the much-needed psychosocial support and opportunities for children to interact and play.

Reducing avoidable delays in life-saving medicine to minimise patients' suffering

In October 2016, WHO, with Ministry of Health partners, delivered essential medicines and medical supplies across Libya, benefiting over 89,000 people. Delivery of essential supplies in the country remains challenging. Earlier this year, 115,000 vials of insulin procured and shipped by WHO at the request of the Ministry of Health to meet the acute needs in Benghazi were denied clearance for seven months, putting the life of diabetes patients at serious risk. The delay was due to national regulations requiring all pharmaceutical products to be registered before distribution.

WHO facilitated a meeting on 28 August 2016 between the Ministry of Health (MOH), including the Medical Supply Organization and Directorate of Pharmacy, the Libyan Food and Drug Administration, airport authorities and clearing agencies to establish a mechanism to avoid delays in the distribution of life-saving medicines in Libya.

Insulin is critical for treating patients with diabetes and is needed to be administered regularly to be effective. The delay in the registration process put the lives of many insulin-dependent patients at risk.

Non-food items distributed in Benghazi

From 28 September to 3 November, UNHCR, through its partner CESVI, distributed non-food item (NFI) kits to refugees and asylum seekers at the Community Development Center (CDC) in Benghazi.

The operation targets refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR. Solar lamps and kitchen sets were distributed to 296 families (1,199 people) during October, to improve people's daily life, to assist families during power cuts and cover basic kitchen needs.

Families with six members or less received one solar lamp and one kitchen set. Larger families, with seven members and more, received two solar lamps and two kitchen sets.



Distribution of NFIs at CDC, Benghazi (credit: UNHCR/CESVI)

WFP continues to contribute to food security for people most in need

Despite insufficient funding, so far in 2016, WFP Libya has provided food assistance to 113,485 people in need, with an estimated 6,770 MT of food commodities distributed from January through to October. The majority of this food assistance has been for those internally displaced as well as refugees.

WFP Libya is providing food assistance to the most vulnerable populations in Libya, 58 per cent of who are women and girls. WFP requires US\$17.3 million to continue providing life-saving food assistance through to April 2017. Each family receives two food parcels, enough to feed five people for one month. The parcels consist of rice, pasta, wheat flour, chickpeas, vegetable oil, sugar and tomato paste. The food entitlements provide 75 per cent of daily energy requirements per person per day.



Libyan woman signing beneficiary list to receive WFP food parcels (credit: WFP)

Repatriated migrants tell their stories

In October 2016, IOM assisted the voluntary repatriation of 304 migrants, including 103 women and four children, from Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya and Gambia. On 27 October, IOM assisted 142 Burkinabe migrants. Before departure, all migrants were hosted at a shelter organised by the Burkinabe embassy and provided food, drinks and hygiene kits. On 10 October, IOM assisted 154 Nigerian migrants to return home, most of who had spent several months in the Al Fallah and Abu Saleem detention centres. In close cooperation with Libyan authorities, the Nigerian Embassy and IOM Nigeria, IOM voluntarily repatriated the migrants, chartering a flight and providing clothes and shoes. On arrival, migrants were met by IOM Nigeria and provided with cash grants to pay for onward transportation to their final destinations. Most vulnerable returnees were also provided with reintegration assistance facilitated by IOM Nigeria.

Below are some stories of migrants' experiences:

Among the Burkinabe migrants to be voluntarily repatriated was 30-year-old Feras. Feras was shot by in Tripoli when he refused to get into a passing car. Feras was shot multiple times and left bleeding on the pavement. He was admitted to Abu Sleem hospital in Tripoli suffering from multiple leg fractures. After two months the Burkina Faso Embassy coordinated with IOM to facilitate his return home.

Malika, a 25-year-old pregnant migrant from Nigeria also shared her story: *"I paid US\$1,500 to a smuggler in Nigeria to join my husband and then go to Italy together. I was smuggled through Agadez, Niger, the desert, then Murzug, southern Libya, where I was reunited with my husband. Then we went to Tripoli and Misrata where we were jailed for three months. My husband was killed and I was transferred to Al Fallah."* IOM also assisted two migrants from Gambia: 27-year-old Sally and 22-year-old Shekou. Sally worked as a housemaid. Following a car accident in which her aunt was killed, Sally was taken to Az Zawiyah hospital then transferred to Sbeaa hospital in Tripoli due to her significant injuries. Paralyzed from the waist down, Sally spent five months in hospital. IOM, following her case, contacted Sally's relatives and assisted in reuniting her with her family in Gambia.

Shekou, who left Gambia in February, also intended to go to Libya. *"I wanted to find work so I can take care of my daughter and my family that I left behind. I thought the journey would be easy,"* he said. Shekou travelled from Gambia through Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and Nigeria, crossing through the desert. *"Many of my friends died in the desert because we ran out of food and water. I had to bury my friends but forced myself to continue the journey."*

Arriving in Libya, Shekou was imprisoned in Bani Walid for more than four months. Finally arriving in Tripoli things got worse. *"I was attacked and beaten by a gang. I had a broken arm and they left me with a fractured knee. I needed help so badly. I managed to contact IOM and told them my story,"* Shekou explained. *"I am on my way home and I am very grateful and thankful. I can't thank IOM enough."*

"I wanted to find work so I can take care of my daughter and my family that I left behind. I thought the journey would be easy." Shekou (Gambian migrant)



IOM arranging repatriation of migrants to Burkina Faso (credit: IOM)

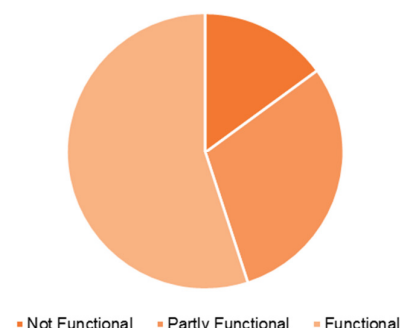
In Brief: Humanitarian Updates

In **Azzawya**, following four days of severe fighting from 27 to 30 October 2016, local partners have reported that the situation remains insecure following a ceasefire agreement on 31 October. While there are conflicting reports on the number of people killed, it is estimated more than 13 people were killed, of which six were reportedly civilians, with many more injured. Around 10 houses were completely destroyed and another 20 damaged. Many markets were affected, with shops remaining closed during the fighting. Azzawya hospital was closed for several days but has since re-opened. Libyan Red Crescent evacuated 150 families.

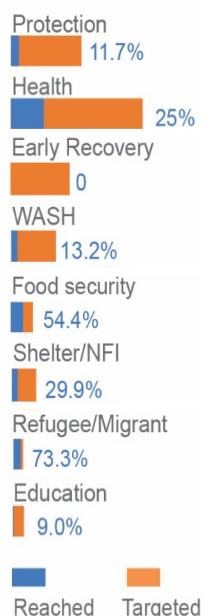
In **Benghazi**, fighting continues between Libyan National Army (LNA) forces and the Benghazi Revolutionaries Shura Council (BRSC). Fighting has centred in Ganfouda, Gwarsha and Souq al-Hout districts. Heavy fighting, extensive use of land mines and suicide attacks seriously threaten the lives of the civilians present in these areas.

Derna remains a significant concern with ongoing fighting between LNA forces and the Derna Mujaheddin Shura Council. Local partners are reporting difficulty in accessing people in affected areas. There have been recent reports of relief items being confiscated although other humanitarian assistance is getting through. Recent information from WHO and its health partners show the main Alwahda hospital is closed and at least two other primary health centres and several others are either closed or functioning below capacity due to proximity to fighting.

Status of Medical Facilities in Derna



Number of people reached in 2016
(as of 30 Oct)



In Brief: Humanitarian Response: October

UN and partner organizations continued to deliver humanitarian assistance across Libya throughout October 2016. In Protection, UNHCR has supported over 2,100 refugees and asylum seekers through Community Development Centers in Tripoli and Benghazi, providing NFIs and cash assistance to 1,800 people and provided 1,175 people with medical assistance. UNICEF and partners provided psychosocial support to over 3,900 children (1,900 girls, 2,000 boys) through fixed or mobile child-friendly spaces. IOM continued its distribution of NFIs (including hygiene kits, slippers and cleaning supplies) to over 1,900 migrants in detention centers.

In Health, WHO, UNFPA and other partners have provided essential medicines and medical supplies to hospitals and health facilities across Libya benefiting around 950,000 people. Additionally, delivery of polio vaccinations by UNICEF have been received for the upcoming vaccination campaign (10-15 December), benefiting 1.5 million children. In Food Security, WFP has distributed food items to over 78,300 people throughout the country. In Education, 2,160 children (1,265 boys, 895 girls) benefitted from recreational activities organised by UNICEF partner's in five cities. In WASH, UNICEF and partners are providing water and sanitation services to 2,500 families in Sebha and Ubari. A number of international NGOs have also been providing assistance in many sectors.

For further information, please contact:

Abdul Haq Amiri, Head, OCHA Libya Advisory Team, amiri@un.org

Follow the Libya Humanitarian Country Team:

Facebook [UNinLibya](https://www.facebook.com/UNinLibya) Twitter [UNcoordLibya](https://twitter.com/UNcoordLibya)

OCHA Humanitarian Bulletins are available at: www.reliefweb.int