Rescued migrants receive non-food aid and health assistance

During the past two weeks, 326 migrants have been rescued in Libyan waters while the remains of five migrants were retrieved in Al Maya and Tripoli.

51 migrants who were rescued off Garabouli and transferred to Trig Al Shook detention centre received non-food aid in the form of pillows, clothes, slippers, blankets and mattresses. IOM’s protection team also visited the migrants and seven minors, from the total number rescued, received family tracing assistance before departure home to Guinea Conakry on 13 July.

Furthermore, 140 migrants, 114 men, 23 women and three children, who were rescued off Tripoli on 13 July, received health assistance at Abu Setta disembarkation point.

IOM assists stranded migrants return home to Burkina Faso, Niger, Sudan

As of 14 July, 10,994 migrants have been rescued in Libyan waters and the remains of 348 men, women and children have been discovered along the Libyan shores.

On 3 July, four bodies were retrieved in Tripoli.

On 8 July, 65 migrants were rescued off Garabouli. After two days, on 10 July, one male body was retrieved in Al Maya, west of Tripoli.

On 13 July, 123 migrants were rescued off Azzawya. On the same day, 140 migrants, 114 men, 23 women and another three children were rescued off Tripoli.

Undocumented African migrants use Sudan to reach Libya (Al Jazeera)

EU slammed for putting lives at risk with ‘reckless’ ‘refugee policy’ (The New Arab)

EU offers Italy migrant help, cautions private rescuers (Reuters)

The fight to stop Mediterranean people-smuggling starts on land, not at sea (The Guardian)
During the past two weeks, 374 stranded migrants have been able to return home with the assistance of IOM.

On 10 July, six stranded migrants from Sudanese origin returned home through a commercial flight that departed Misratah airport. Two days later, 231 stranded Burkinabe migrants returned home from Tripoli’s Meetiga airport. 223 of these migrants previously lived in the city while the other four were from Abu Slim and Trig Al Shook detention centres. On the same day, four Nigerien male migrants returned home from Misratah airport and another 136 stranded Guinean migrants received return assistance home on 13 July. All 374 assisted migrants were eligible for further reintegration assistance once they are back in their countries of origin. Before departure, the migrants also received non-food items as well as new clothes and slippers.

“I arrived to Bamako and then Algeria where I worked and saved money in order to go to Libya. In Libya, I encountered many difficulties and tried to cross to Italy twice. Now I am at Tripoli airport and very happy to be returning home,” said Ismail who received return assistance home to Guinea Conakry.

So far in 2017, IOM Libya has helped 5,545 stranded migrants return to their countries of origin.
Migrants in Salaheddine detention centre prepare their own meals

As a response to the disruption of food provision to Salaheddine detention centre, IOM has delivered ingredients including vegetables, chicken, rice and other cooking products to the centre’s around 50 migrants. The assistance allows the migrant to cook their own food for at least one week. This is the first time IOM Libya provides a detention centre with food ingredients and is part of IOM’s emergency food response. “The provision of ingredients has multiple benefits, it enables the migrants to engage in an activity, which keeps the migrants temporary active, in contrast to their otherwise usual day to day in detention. It also allows them to cook food according to their own preferences and it is overall cost-efficient” explained Emergency and Liaison Officer Martina Salvatore.

On 30 June, 200 migrants in Tripoli’s Meetiga detention centre received non-food aid including hygiene kits. Another 80 migrants in Janzur detention centre, received mattresses, pillows, blankets and hygiene kits.

Another two new born babies also rescued at sea in the same detention centre also received diapers.

reach Europe for a better life. But once again Jonathan was captured.

“My relatives had to send 300 USD and they released me,” he explained to IOM.

After two failed attempts on one of the world’s most dangerous routes across the Mediterranean Sea, Jonathan’s journey ended, like for so many others, in one of the Libyan capital’s detention centres.

In thirteen of the current 29 government-led detention centres there are around 140 unaccompanied minors, according to IOM Libya’s Displacement Tracking Matrix’s detention centre mapping tool.

“Detention centre is not a place for children,” emphasized IOM Libya’s Protection Officer. “We work closely with the Libyan authorities in trying to find alternative solutions to detention and efficiently assist those wishing to return home.” Whilst trying to minimize the time spent in detention, IOM also supports the children with recreational activities and psychosocial first aid.

Jonathan is one of the around 120 minors that IOM Libya has assisted to return home. Today he is reunited with his relatives at home, where he continues to dream about becoming a professional football player.

*Jonathan is not the migrant’s real name

SECOND CHANCES: “IT WILL TAKE TWO HOURS.”

Before leaving Libyan soil on a flimsy rubber dinghy, Moses was informed that in two hours they would be rescued and taken to Europe. “But it didn’t,” he added.

Moses, a father of seven, from an African country, stands in the courtyard of a detention centre in Tripoli, where he has ended up after more than a year in Libya. He left his wife with their four other children to earn money for the family and worked in southern Libya.

But staying with the three boys was no longer an option, so when his employer asked if he had some money and wanted to go to Subratah and Europe, Moses saw no other option but to go ahead.
IOM identifies 393,652 migrants in Libya

IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) latest study identifies 393,652 migrants inside Libya. The majority are located in Misrata (20 percent), Tripoli (15 percent) and Almargeb (11 percent) and come from Egypt (21 percent), Niger (18 percent) and Chad (14 percent). The average age is 29 years and 79 percent of the migrants were unemployed prior to leaving their home countries. Nine percent of the migrants were minors and 91 percent adults.

The majority left their home counties due to economic reasons (91 percent), whilst three percent stated war, conflict, insecurity or political reason as their reason for leaving. The majority (44 percent) worked in agriculture, pastoralism, fishing and food industry prior to migrating.

Employment status and sector of employment in countries of origin

Migrants receive medical assistance for respiratory infection and delivery care

“It was never my intention to go to Europe, not when I arrived to Libya,” he explains, but as his journey became more and more dangerous, Italy seemed to move closer and closer. Two hours away close.

In the western coastal city of Subratah, Moses paid and ended up on a rubber boat with about 150 other passengers from different African countries. Moses demonstrates how he sat with his children around him, his arms around their shoulders. “Packed like sardines,” he says.

But two hours turned into three, turned into four and five and six hours.

As the minutes ticked away the boat drifted, without a motor or a compass the passengers had little control over their fates. The “pusher men” take a speed boat or a scooter and leave the migrant boat at sea. Moses started to panic. He estimates that they stayed at sea for around six hours until they saw a boat with a Libyan flag. I ask Moses, were you disappointed it was the Libyans and not the Italians? No, he says, at that time he was just glad they were still alive.

We work for a better future for our children, that is what it is all about, says Moses who has now chosen to return home through IOM’s return assistance programme. As we wait for the buses to begin to transfer those migrants that have signed up for the assistance through Mitiga airport, Moses speaks of the boys. With a little glimmer of hope lightening in his eyes he tells me about the characters of his three sons. He puts his hand on the youngest head, this one is a clever one, he asks a lot of questions, Moses says with a smile, he will become a lawyer, he concludes. The other two would like to become a soldier and police, they are strong, Moses says and bursts out in laughter.

At the airport the five-year-old, Moses’ youngest son stands by the window and watches the plane that is about to bring him back to his mother and siblings.

But Moses leaves Libya with a bittersweet feeling, he is well aware that life back home will not be easy, they left for a reason and now they are in debt. But the most important is family, how you bring up your children will shape them, he says, shapes their future.

*For safety reasons, Moses is not the migrant’s real name

PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

Voluntary Humanitarian Return and Reintegration Support
106 migrants from the detention centres of Misratah, Suhada’ Nasr, Abu Eissa, Shahat and Surman received medical assistance for diseases such as respiratory tract infections as well as delivery care for the pregnant women.

IOM’s health unit has also convened with partners from local associations to discuss ways to expand the health support in various regions in Libya.

Stranded minors receive family tracing assistance prior to returning home

Twelve stranded Yemeni migrants, including one minor, currently stranded at the Egyptian-Libyan border will be provided with food, water and clothes. IOM is also working on providing them with voluntary return assistance home to Yemen.

Also, in the past two weeks, an initial screening for two female victims of trafficking took place. One of the migrants expressed a wish to return home and is now in the process of receiving voluntary return assistance.

IOM is also working, alongside UNICEF, to provide further support to the group of children currently at Misratah Libyan Red Crescent shelter. IOM works to provide medical assistance as well as non-food aid. IOM’s partner, the Psychosocial Support team will also provide regular counselling sessions as well as recreational activities for the children.
IOM rehabilitates water wells in southern Libya

Eighteen water wells in 12 out of 14 neighborhoods in Sabha have been completely rehabilitated and have officially been handed over to the government. IOM’s community stabilization programme is now working on rehabilitating another 11 water wells in Al Qatroun’s neighborhoods such as Qasr Masood, Naqr Kanema and Qatroun centre.

IOM is also working on organizing a psychosocial support training for 80 health practitioners in both Sabha and Al Qatroun.
The handover of the wells in Sabha.

- Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 101,417 in 2017; 2,353 Deaths
IOM Libya Operations are supported by

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