



HIGHLIGHTS

2,479

Refugee families received core relief items so far in 2017

514

Internally displaced families received core relief items so far in 2017

203

Visits in total to 23 detention facilities were conducted so far in 2017; 53 persons were released in 2017 following UNHCR advocacy interventions

3


training events organized so far in 2017 to reinforce capacities of Libyan Coast Guard, Navy and NGOs

Population of concern

A total of **797,260** persons of concern

 **40,112** Refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR

Nationality	Total
Syrian	20,320
Palestinian	6,063
Eritrean	4,763
Iraqi	3,235
Somalian	2,371
Sudanese	2,693
Other	667
Total	40,112

 **303,608** Internally displaced persons (IDPs)*

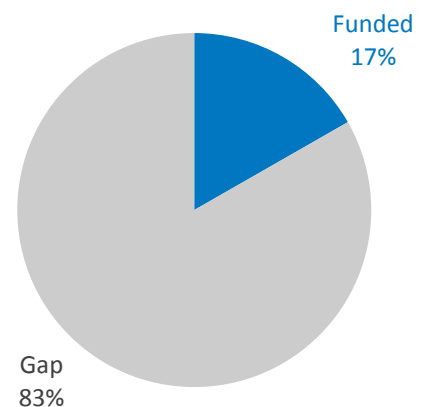
Area of displacement	Total
Benghazi	41,300
Ajdabiya	32,470
Abu Salim	27,395
Al Bayda	19,950
Al Zintan	19,100
Other areas	163,393
Total	303,608

 **453,540** IDP Returnees in Libya*

* Source: DTM – IOM as of December 2016

Funding

USD 27.5 million requested in 2017



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

41 national staff (4 in Tunis, 34 in Tripoli and 3 in Benghazi)

16 international staff*

Offices:

2 offices located in:

Tripoli, Benghazi

* UNHCR international staff operate remotely from Tunis since their evacuation in 2014.



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- **UNHCR is a member of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT)** and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Libya. UNHCR co-leads, together with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Mixed Migration Working Group. This Working Group, launched in December 2016, is the main platform for coordination of protection and assistance to refugees and migrants in Libya, under the [Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\) 2017 for Libya](#)'s Refugee and Migrant Response chapter. As part of the HRP, UNHCR also leads the Protection Working Group (PWG), the Shelter/NFI and Cash Working Group.
- **UNHCR collaborates and supports Libyan authorities** to help displaced Libyan families and conflict affected populations but also to reinforce national capacities for the protection of refugees and asylum seekers. UNHCR has established a forum on protection at sea, convening Libyan officials, civil society and national and international partners, with the aim of strengthening Libya's ability to respond to rescues at sea and provide humanitarian assistance upon disembarkation.
- **UNHCR works with several national and international NGOs in Libya.** For its refugee response and detention monitoring activities, UNHCR works with two international NGOs, Cooperazione e Sviluppo (CESVI) and the International Medical Corps (IMC), in Tripoli. UNHCR works with Mercy Corps to assess and respond to the situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and with IMPACT initiatives on a mixed migration trends analysis. Finally, UNHCR has three operational partnerships with national NGOs: Arkan for Development, the Libyan Organization for Development (LOD), and the Libyan Humanitarian Relief Agency national (LibAid).

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- UNHCR is providing **basic assistance to internally displaced persons (IDP)** in Libya: in 2017, 514 displaced families received core relief items. UNHCR completed an [IDP vulnerability assessment](#) in December 2016, which indicates that the majority of displaced households wish to remain in their current location or return home; UNHCR is carrying out a second assessment focusing on the needs of people returning to Sirte.
- One of UNHCR's key objectives in Libya is to **enhance the protection environment for refugees and asylum seekers**. UNHCR identifies, registers and documents persons in need of international protection through its telephone hotlines, via its three Development Community Centers in Benghazi and Tripoli and through outreach visits conducted by partners. UNHCR's partners CESVI and IMC provide support to persons with specific needs, including unaccompanied minors and victims of trafficking, as well as newly released refugees and asylum seekers with compelling protection needs.
- UNHCR advocates with Libyan authorities to **find alternatives to detention** and to ensure that basic needs are met inside detention centers. UNHCR and its partners IMC and LibAid have access to 26 detention centers run by Libyan authorities and reaches out to individuals detained for irregular entry or stay in Libya. In 2016, 578 refugees and asylum seekers were released following UNHCR's intervention. So far in 2017, 53 persons were released, including a group of women held by ISIS in Sirte.
- UNHCR also encourages authorities to adopt protection-sensitive approaches, including during **rescues at sea**, with due respect for the principle of *non-refoulement*. Through six health posts located in Tripoli (three), Tajurah, Zawiyah and Al Khums ports, UNHCR's partner IMC delivers emergency assistance upon disembarkation to survivors of rescue at sea/interception incidents.
- UNHCR **reinforces capacities in Libya on dealing with international protection** in a mixed migration context, by reaching out to key officials, civil society and other actors and offering training on core protection principles and refugee law. UNHCR is also training local NGOs in the east, west and south of Libya to expand its network of partners.

Health

- Refugees and asylum seekers have limited access to Libyan health facilities, which have been negatively affected by ongoing clashes and critical shortages of medicines and staff. UNHCR provides **primary health care to refugees and asylum seekers** in Tripoli and in detention facilities through IMC. So far in 2017, 10,098 medical consultations were provided to refugees and asylum seekers. UNHCR's partner CESVI provides psychosocial support to the most vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers in Tripoli.

Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR distributes **monthly financial assistance to vulnerable refugee and internally displaced families** to cover shelter and basic needs, despite challenges linked to the liquidity crisis in Libya. UNHCR continues to distribute **non-food items** wherever cash assistance is not possible: in 2017, 2,479 refugee families and 514 internally displaced Libyan families received relief items.
- UNHCR distributes **hygiene items to refugees, asylum seekers**, and persons of concern held in detention centers, where hygiene conditions are particularly difficult.

Durable Solutions

- UNHCR promotes and facilitates **durable solutions, such as resettlement and voluntary repatriation, for refugees and asylum-seekers**, giving particular attention to the most vulnerable. In total, 5 refugees were resettled in 2017.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR as well as to the [United States of America](#), [CERF](#), [Italy](#) and [Sweden](#) who have directly contributed to the operation in 2017.