

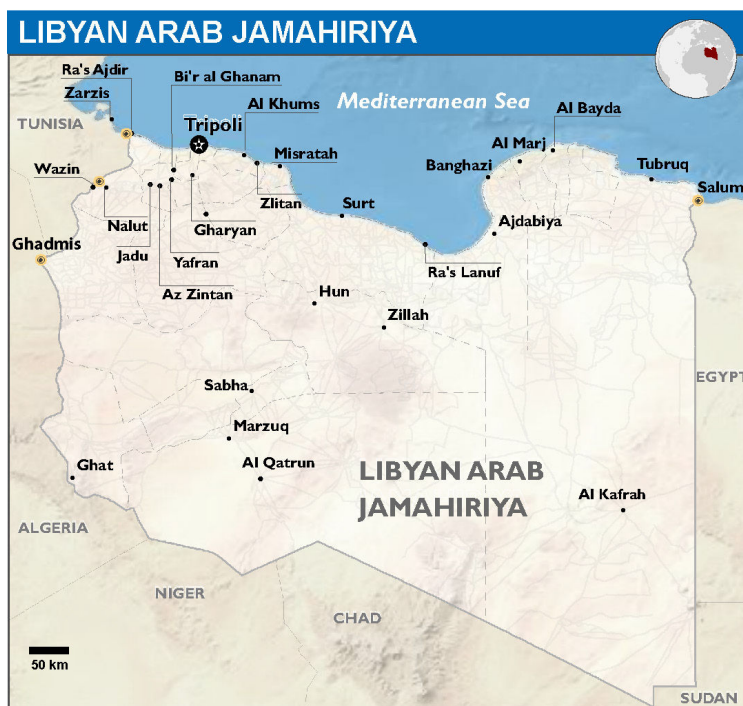
This report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was prepared by OCHA Libya. It covers the period from 11 to 25 August; the next report will be issued on or around 30 August.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Intensification of the conflict has resulted in deep concerns about the protection of civilians
- Disruption to water supplies in and around Tripoli
- Significant increase in war-wounded exceeds the capacity of medical system
- Media reports of 200+ decomposing bodies found in abandoned hospital in Tripoli.

II. Situation Overview

This Situation Report summarises the latest developments in the conflict since fighting intensified on 13 August 2011 and provides an overview of potential, reported and confirmed humanitarian implications of these developments. There is little verified information available on the situation in Tripoli because the precarious security situation restricts humanitarian access. Therefore, much of the information in the report is based on media reports and has not been verified or confirmed. Some information has been provided by international organisations and key informants in/near the affected areas.



Since 13 August fighting in Libya has intensified significantly. Three main areas surrounding Tripoli have witnessed heavy fighting: west of Tripoli along the coastal route to Tunisia, south of Tripoli in the northern Nafusa Mountains, and east of Tripoli around Misrata. Heavy fighting has also taken place in and around the port of Brega, and shelling was reported in Sabha (southern Libya).

On 20 August anti-government forces entered Tripoli, and intermittent heavy fighting is ongoing in parts of the city. There are reports of continued fighting in and around several other towns in Libya, particularly along the coastal areas, including, Zlitan (160 km east of Tripoli), Al-Khoms (120 km west of Tripoli), Ras Lanuf (east of Tripoli, near Brega), Ajelat (80 km west of Tripoli) and Zuwarah (60 km west of Tripoli).

Tripoli and the areas west of Tripoli, towards the border with Tunisia, are reportedly facing serious water shortages, placing up to four million people at risk. The Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster is following up with key informants in Tripoli and other locations to finalise a response plan under the leadership of UNICEF, in coordination with the Logistics Cluster and field-based donors.

Population Displacement

According to IOM, over 860,900 people have left Libya and remain in displacement since 16 February. Of these, around 192,000 are Libyans who crossed into Tunisia and Egypt, while 668,900 are non-Libyans. Around 45% (303,600) of the non-Libyans are third-country nationals (TCNs), the majority of which have

been repatriated. The remaining non-Libyans (around 55%) are nationals of countries bordering Libya who returned to their countries of origin.

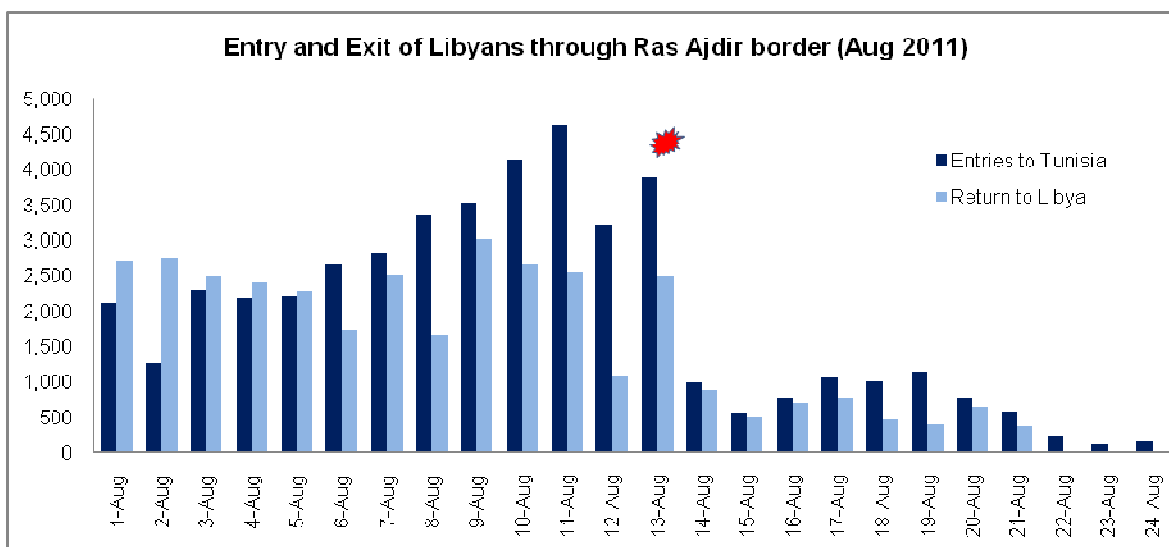
As a result of the heavy fighting in Tripoli and the surrounding areas, there have been reports of significant population movement southwards into the Nafusa Mountains, particularly from Al-Zawiyah (west of Tripoli). Since 14 August, approximately 800 families have moved into the Nafusa Mountains per day through the BirAyyad checkpoint. There have also been confirmed reports of an increase in war-wounded being treated in medical facilities assisted by INGOs in the Nafusa Mountains.

In order to ensure the identification and delivery of primary needs, the Protection Cluster is planning to establish two transit centres for IDPs and returnees in the Nafusa Mountains: one in Nalut for around 5,000 people, and one in Zintan for around 15,000 people. Sites have already been identified in coordination with the local authorities.

[Cross-border movement between Libya and Tunisia](#)

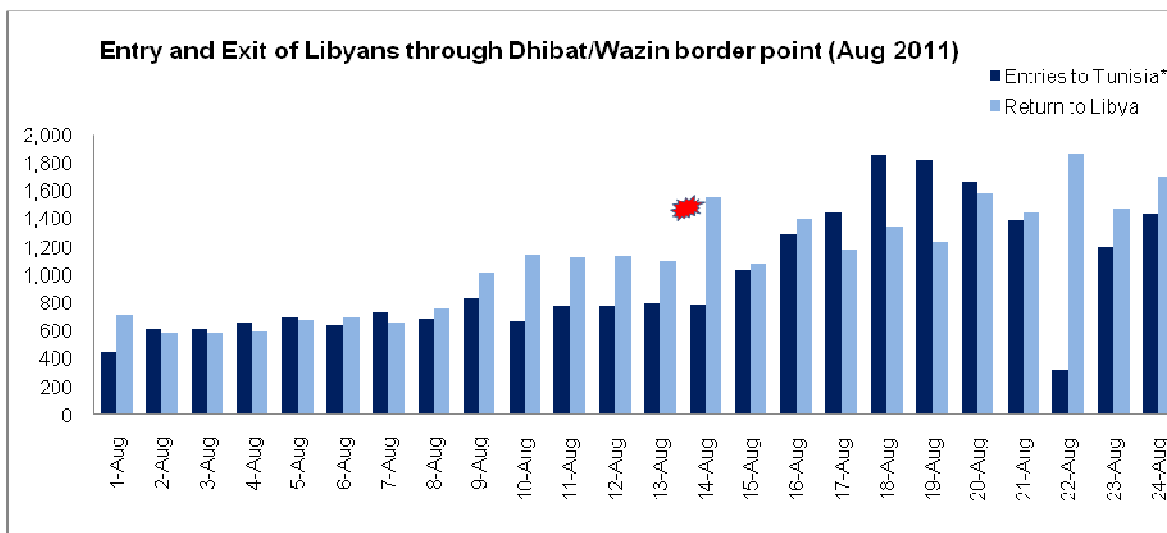
As of 14 August there has been a significant drop in the number of crossings at the Ras Ajdir border both to and from Tunisia. Libyan Government forces remain in control of the Ras Ajdir border which has been open intermittently. There have been reports of sporadic fighting between anti-government and government forces in the area near the border.

The graph below shows the change in numbers crossing both the Ras Ajdir since 13 August.



Further south, the Dhibat/Wazin border (entry point to the Nafusa Mountains) has also periodically been closed. Since 22 August it has been closed to people trying to enter Tunisia, explaining the sharp drop in the chart above. However there has been a rise in the number of people returning to Libya across this border. UNHCR reports that the population of the camps in the Dhibat area of southern Tunisia has dropped significantly: the population of Tatuine camp is now down to 70 and Remada camp has only 64 people. The majority of families returning to Libya cite improved security and provision of services (such as water and electricity) in Nalut, Zintan, Yafran and the surrounding areas as the main reason for return. Over the past few days, returns have also been reported to Gharyan and Al-Zawiyah after the situation calmed (following a week of intense fighting from 13 August).

The Nafusa Mountains area experienced heavy fighting earlier on in the crisis (in particular from May to July). Although the situation is beginning to return to normal in some areas (south and west of the region), the return of the formerly displaced population is placing an additional burden on villages to provide basic food supplies and services at a time when stocks are already low. New displacement from the north will exacerbate the situation. Humanitarian actors have access to some parts of the Nafusa Mountains, and are providing food, medical, water and protection assistance to identified beneficiaries.



III. Humanitarian Implications and Response

TRIPOLI

There are continued reports of understaffing and shortages of medical supplies for treatment of both the war-wounded and people with chronic diseases in Tripoli. There are also concerns about the removal of hospital waste from health facilities and the shortage of water. Waste is accumulating at a rapid rate and is considered a significant biohazard if not disposed of correctly. The limited availability of water – both for drinking and sanitation – poses a serious health risk to hospital patients.

IMC, MSF and ICRC continue to provide urgent care in several health facilities in Tripoli, including those near areas of fighting. However, there have been numerous media reports since the start of this week of heavy fighting near several hospitals, making it difficult, if not impossible, for the wounded to access medical care or for international organisations to assist them. Some Libyan doctors are reportedly treating the wounded in their homes.

On August 26, there were reports by the media of the discovery of at least 200 decomposing bodies (including women and children) at the Abu Salim hospital, underscoring the serious impact that ongoing fighting is having on civilians in and around the densely populated neighbourhoods of Tripoli, as well as in other locations across Libya. Humanitarian organizations have not yet been able to access the hospital because of the intensity of hostilities taking place.

There are verified reports of water shortages in Tripoli. As of 25 August the WASH Cluster reports that although water supplies to Tripoli have not been entirely cut, the water system is running at a much reduced capacity and alternative water sources are being used wherever possible. The National Transitional water and waste water authorities in Tripoli have requested UNICEF's urgent assistance in providing drinking water to vulnerable areas in Tripoli.

According to the Libyan Red Crescent there are around 9,000 IDP families (approximately 50,000 people) who have been displaced to Tripoli since the start of the conflict.

IOM has received several requests to evacuate foreign nationals from Tripoli. An estimated 200,000 Egyptian migrants are believed to be in Tripoli and western Libya, with migrants of many other nationalities still present in the capital. An IOM-chartered ship, with operational and medical staff onboard, carried out an initial evacuation of approximately 200 migrants stranded in the city on 25 August, and expects to conduct a second evacuation on 27 August. So far, more than 5,000 migrants have registered for evacuation. IOM will take the migrants to the Egyptian border with Libya at Saloum, before assisting them to return to their home countries. Two larger boats (capacity 1,500 persons per vessel) and medical staff are on standby should it become possible to conduct additional sea evacuations over the next week.

WEST OF TRIPOLI

Over the last ten days heavy fighting has been reported in Al-Zawiyah, Zuwarah, Sabratha, Surman and Ajaylat. These towns all lie along the coastal road between Tripoli and the border with Tunisia. Although the situation has calmed, there are continued reports of sporadic fighting in these areas, particularly in Zuwarah and Ajaylat. Other than reports of large numbers of casualties (including civilians) and the likelihood of a significant ERW presence, there is limited information available about the humanitarian situation in these areas as the security situation remains precarious and humanitarian access is limited.

There are 290 metric tonnes of food on stand-by at the Ras Ajdir border with Libya, ready to be delivered through the northern supply route as soon as the security situation permits.

EAST OF TRIPOLI

Over the past week, heavy fighting has continued in the port city of Brega (750 km east of Tripoli, 200 km southwest of Benghazi) and further west in Ras Lanuf. WHO has conducted a Mass Casualty Management Training for Brega Field Hospital staff, following reports of war-wounded travelling to the nearby city of Ajdabiya.

In Zlitan (60 km west of Misrata, 160 km east of Tripoli, pop. 110,000) pockets of fighting continue with anti-government forces reportedly in control of most of the city and most of the population having fled. Some IDPs have reportedly gone to Misrata, while others are heading for areas that remain under government control. There have been unconfirmed social media reports that the NTC has sent a shipment of food, fuel and other essential goods from Misrata to Zlitan.

IOM undertook the fifteenth evacuation rotation of TCNs from Misrata on 21 August, with 125 people on board. Since the start of the conflict the total number of people evacuated from Misrata to Benghazi is 8,432, including both TCNs and war-wounded evacuees.

A WFP-chartered ship has set sail yesterday from Benghazi to Misrata a total of 495 metric tons of food to be distributed in Zlitan to 15,000 people affected by recent heavy fighting. The shipment also includes NFIs (including 4,000 hygiene kits, 1,500 blankets and 1,500 mattresses) and education and child protection supplies (26 early childhood development kits, 16 recreation kits and 10 school-in-a-box kits). The ship will carry a UN interagency mission to evaluate further needs in Zlitan and Misrata. Additionally, 300 metric tonnes, from stocks at Libya's border with Tunisia are being loaded for immediate dispatch to Gharyan as partial assistance to some 200,000 in the Nafusa Mountains.

SOUTH OF TRIPOLI (NAFUSA MOUNTAINS)

As in other parts of the country, the main concerns in the Nafusa Mountains remain protection of civilians and the threat from Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). Humanitarian actors continue to conduct spot clearance tasks of ERW and provide risk education to the IDPs and the local population. There have been increased reports of ERW victims in the area north of Nalut and in Tigi. There is increasing concern about contamination levels in Gharyan as sporadic fighting continues.

An emergency risk education team has been sent to BirAya (on the road north of Yafran where there is a checkpoint through which many IDPs are moving). The team will provide ERW risk education and provide leaflets to displaced people passing through the area, in particular to returnees. Returns to areas north of the Nafusa Mountains are expected and there are likely to be high levels of contamination in the coastal areas that have seen heavy fighting over the last ten days.

According to the Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster, the commercial sector in main towns of the Nafusa Mountains region is recovering, particularly in the south and west, with fruit and vegetables being sold on the roadsides, shops re-opening and people buying commodities. While it seems apparent that the commercial sector has somewhat rebounded in the urban areas, access to food remains a concern as salaries have not been paid, food prices have risen and the local currency has depreciated. WFP has received information that around 150,000 people in Gharyan and surrounding areas may require food assistance. WFP is conducting a rapid assessment with other organisations and partners already present in the region to get more comprehensive information.

To meet the additional food requirements with the rise in returns since the start of Ramadan, WFP, with LRC, is distributing 850 metric tons of food throughout the Nafusa Mountains to some 160,000 beneficiaries. In addition to basic commodities from WFP, other organizations operating in the area will be providing

complementary food items culturally specific to the holy month. LRC in collaboration with IOM will be providing tuna and milk whereas Al Ikhlas Charity (NGO) will be complementing WFP's rations with fresh food. Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) is also planning on providing food baskets to some areas in Nafusa Mountains.

IV. Coordination

The HCT met on 26 August in Zarzis, Tunisia, with representatives of the NTC. They discussed humanitarian priorities and response planning for the next several weeks. The revised Flash Appeal has been extended by one month and an accompanying 30-Day Action plan covering September will be issued by 30th August. An early recovery/transition plan will be developed to begin October.

The coordination schedule in Zarzis has been revised. The coordination meeting schedules for Benghazi, Cairo and Zarzis, as well as Cluster and HCT contact lists are available at <http://libya.humanitarianresponse.info/>.

OCHA Libya is producing a daily humanitarian media monitoring service. The service provides an overview of the Libya crisis as portrayed in the worldwide media, including: news agencies, newspapers, Arab Satellite TV, websites, social media and press releases by humanitarian organisations. If you wish to subscribe to the media monitoring service, visit: <http://bit.ly/jD4HDR>

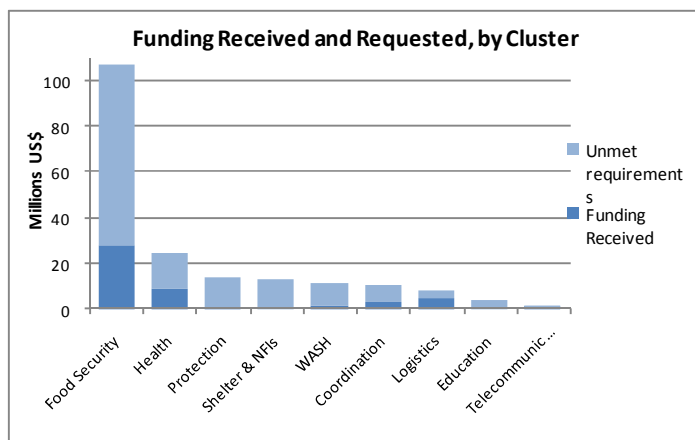
OCHA has an incomplete picture of the activities of Libyan Diaspora groups providing humanitarian aid to the Nafusa Mountains area. Groups providing humanitarian aid in this area are kindly asked to contact OCHA at: OCHALibya@un.org

V. Funding

The Flash Appeal is funded at **59.6 per cent**, with **\$243 million** received out of the \$407 million requested. Donations have also been recorded to projects outside the appeal, with a total of **\$140 million**. This brings the total recorded humanitarian funding for the Libya crisis to **\$383 million**.

The chart (right) provides a breakdown of funding received and unmet requirements by cluster (excluding multi-cluster, which is 67 per cent funded). See Annex I for an analysis of the humanitarian funding trends, since the revision of the Flash Appeal on 17 May 2011 (launched 18 May).

OCHA has an incomplete picture of funding donated outside the Flash Appeal. To ensure coordination of resources, please advise the Financial Tracking Service (fts@un.org) of all funding and in-kind donations. The [Financial Tracking Service](#) shows daily updates of funding for this appeal and other humanitarian response to the Libyan crisis.



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