



WFP Libya Country Brief

Highlights

- In January 2017, WFP aims to reach 70,000 people in need and plans to incrementally scale-up its food assistance to reach 175,000 individuals on a monthly basis during the fourth quarter of 2017. In order to achieve this, WFP will require USD 24.5 million.
- In December 2016, WFP provided food assistance through onsite food distributions to 75,804 internally displaced people (IDPs).

WFP Assistance

Assistance to People Affected by the Crisis in Libya	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
EMOP 200925 (January 2016– Dec. 2017)	54.7	14.5 m (26%)	7.7 m (88%)

*February – July 2017

GENDER MARKER 1 EMOP 200925

Due to conflict and political instability, WFP, along with the entire Libya United Nations Country Team (UNCT), has been operating remotely from Tunisia since 2014. The humanitarian situation in Libya continues to deteriorate as a result of the prolonged conflict, limited availability of cash in banks, and frequent electricity interruptions, which negatively affect the provision of basic social services.

According to the 2017 [Humanitarian Needs Overview \(HNO\)](#), food insecurity among the affected population is increasing due to protracted displacement, disruption to markets and lower food commodity production. Livelihoods and access to basic social services have been affected by the conflict, exposing the most vulnerable people to a high risk of inadequate food consumption and forcing people into negative coping strategies such as spending savings, cutting their number of daily meals and reducing non-food related expenses, particularly in health and education.

WFP's Rapid Food Security assessment (October 2016) indicated that 17 percent of internally displaced people (IDPs), an 11 percent increase since 2015, are food insecure and 60 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity. IDPs, returnees and refugees are among the most vulnerable population groups in need of food assistance.

Through its Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200925, WFP aims to provide food assistance to people who are food insecure as a result of the conflict in Libya. The EMOP is aligned with WFP's Strategic Objective 1: to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, by addressing the urgent food and nutrition needs of vulnerable women, men, girls and boys affected by the crisis.

Despite having to reduce food assistance as a result of limited funding, in 2016 WFP was able to reach 113,485 people in need throughout Libya. In 2017 WFP requires USD 24.5 million to reach approximately 175,000 food insecure individuals who continue to be affected by the protracted conflict, mainly IDPs, returnees and refugees, with priority given to unemployed households headed by women, identified as one of the most vulnerable groups.

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 percent (1,530 kcal) of daily energy requirements per person per day. The caloric value of the food basket was designed on the assumption that IDPs have access to other sources of food.

Over the last two years, WFP has provided food assistance in Libya primarily through two local Cooperating Partners (CPs), LibAid in the east and Sheikh Taher Azzawi Charity Organization (STACO) throughout the west and south of Libya. In September 2016, WFP signed a memorandum of understanding with Libyan NGO Ayady Al Khair Society (AKS) to distribute food to people in Tripoli and the surrounding areas.

In Numbers

1.3 m people in need (HRP 2017)

175,000 targeted for WFP food assistance

313,236 people internally displaced (IOM)

People Assisted
December 2016



Main Photo Credit: AKS
A Libyan woman signs the beneficiary list in order to receive WFP food parcels.



January 2017

Operational Updates

- EMOP 200925 has now been extended through December 2017 in order to continue providing life-saving food assistance to the most vulnerable groups affected by the ongoing crisis in Libya.
- In January 2017, with the appropriate funding WFP aims to reach 70,000 people in need and plans to scale up until reaching 175,000 individuals monthly by the last quarter of the year.
- Since the beginning of the year, WFP has been taking part in the Humanitarian Country Team-wide Cash Working Group, which is exploring the future possibility of integrating cash-based interventions in Libya.

Challenges

- While direct access continues to hinder the effectiveness of WFP's operation in Libya, funding remains the primary constraint. Without additional funding, WFP will have to further reduce the number of people it provides food assistance to, forcing them to increase their use of negative coping mechanisms, including reducing the number of meals, and cutting health and education expenses.
- A lack of WFP's presence inside Libya, assessing the population's needs, levels of food insecurity, and vulnerability continues to prevent timely and needs based assistance.
- WFP's in-country cooperating partners are faced with sporadic telecommunication and electricity outages, as well as fuel shortages, limiting their capacity to effectively facilitate WFP assistance.

Partnerships

- WFP continues to explore options to expand its operational partnership base in order to ensure that as the situation changes, it can send food to hard-to-reach areas that are most critically affected by fighting.
- WFP determines the most affected people in consultation with local crisis committees and partners. WFP collaborates with the Libya UNCT and the Security Management Team to coordinate its activities with other United Nations agencies, to assess the political and security situation and the resulting impact on operations. Social welfare systems and community networks have eroded since the fighting intensified in July 2014.
- From January 2016, WFP Libya has strengthened its cooperation with a third party monitoring (TPM) consulting firm, Voluntas, to conduct food distribution monitoring throughout Libya. In October 2016, WFP Libya began remote monitoring through a new partner Crystel Call, based in Amman, Jordan. Crystel Call is conducting remote post-distribution monitoring by calling people targeted for assistance.

Country Background & Strategy



Libya is ranked 94 out of 188 in the [2015 Human Development Report](#), with only 30 percent of Libya's women participating in the formal labour force, compared to 76 percent of men, despite more women receiving a higher level of education.

The [latest indicators](#) show that 21 percent of children under five are stunted, a figure that has remained level for some twenty years (UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, 2014).

On 30 March, 2015, the Government of National Accord (GNA) entered into Libya. The UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) is backing the establishment of the GNA. There is opposition from both of Libya's rival parliaments, the Tobruk-based House of Representatives and the General National Congress (GNC).

Shortages in food, fuel, water, electricity and cash are reported as a result of the ongoing conflict throughout the country. [According to the World Bank](#), the armed conflict has cut the income per capita of Libyan households in more than half, falling to less than USD 4,500 in 2015 from almost USD 13,000 in 2012.

WFP resumed operations in Libya in September 2014.

Population: **6.4 million**

2015 Human Development Index: **94 out of 188**

Income Level: **Upper middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **21 percent of children between 6-59 months**

Donors

[Central Emergency Response Fund \(CERF\)](#), [Canada](#) and [Italy](#).