

LIBYA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

JUNE 14, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

6.6 million

Estimated Population of Libya
UN – November 2018

823,000

Estimated Number of People in
Need of Humanitarian Assistance
UN – November 2018

172,541

IDPs in Libya
IOM – February 2019

445,476

Registered IDP Returns
IOM – February 2019

666,717

Migrants in Libya
IOM – February 2019

55,586

Registered Refugees and Asylum-
Seekers in Libya
UNHCR – June 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- Conflict displaces populations from areas South and East of Tripoli
- Relief actors provide humanitarian assistance to at least 52,000 people
- UN releases the 2019 HNO, estimating 823,000 people require humanitarian assistance and requesting \$202 million to support humanitarian activities

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE LIBYA RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA ¹	\$10,125,000
State/PRM ²	\$26,100,000
\$36,225,000	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Ongoing hostilities in Libya's capital city of Tripoli have resulted in 167 civilian casualties and displaced approximately 94,000 people in and around the city between April 3 and June 10, according to the UN.
- Fighting in eastern Libya's Darnah District subsided in March, enabling the majority of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to return to areas of origin in the district. Hostilities in the district, which lasted from May 2018–February 2019, displaced more than 35,000 people, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- As of June 10, an estimated 3,700 refugees and migrants were held in detention centers in close proximity to front lines in Tripoli, the UN reports. Humanitarian actors report that migrants at the facilities require urgent food, health, protection, and water assistance.
- In November 2018, the UN released the 2019 Libya Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), which estimates that 823,000 people in Libya—including conflict-affected persons, IDPs, returnees, and host community members, as well as refugees and migrants—may require humanitarian assistance in 2019. On February 5, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) launched the 2019 Libya Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), requesting \$202 million to provide access to critical services—such as education, health care, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)—and basic commodities, including food, relief supplies, and safe drinking water, to the 552,000 people targeted for assistance.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

CURRENT EVENTS

- Ongoing clashes in and around Tripoli have resulted in at least 42 civilian fatalities and 125 civilian injuries and displaced more than 94,000 people from April 3–June 10, the UN reports. Active conflict and the fear of loss of assets are preventing an unconfirmed number of civilians from fleeing the area, according to the UN.
- The majority of IDPs are displaced within Tripoli or to areas along western Libya’s coastline, and are residing with family members or in rented accommodation. The Tripoli Crisis Committee—the Government of Libya’s emergency management body—has accommodated IDPs at government-run collective centers. Approximately 4,000 IDPs sheltered in 47 collective centers as of May 24; however, the numbers of IDPs sheltering in collective centers frequently changes as people often use the facilities as short-term shelter solution, according to the UN.
- A recent IOM assessment of eight conflict-affected municipalities in Tripoli District found that hostilities had negatively affected food security and market access in the majority of assessed locations and that the majority of schools in the areas were closed or only partially functioning, affecting nearly 122,100 children according to some estimates.
- More than 3,700 refugees and migrants were being held at detention centers in Tripoli, some in close proximity to the front lines, as of June 10, according to IOM. Migrants held at detention centers are in urgent need of food, health care, protection, and WASH services, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reports.
- Airstrikes hit the Tajoura Detention Center—which held nearly 600 refugees and migrants—on May 7, injuring two people and damaging the center. Unidentified actors used violence against detainees at the Qasr Ben Ghashir Detention Center on April 23, resulting in 12 civilian injuries. Subsequently, IOM, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and other humanitarian organizations transferred the nearly 700 persons detained at the center to a different location.
- In total, UNHCR transferred more than 1,200 refugees and migrants from detention centers which were in the vicinity of the conflict zone to alternative locations and evacuated more than 580 refugees to Niger from April 4–June 7. Some refugees and migrants have been reluctant to relocate to other facilities within Libya due to perceived poorer conditions at the facilities or a desire to be evacuated out of Libya, the UN agency reports.
- Heavy rains and resultant flooding between May 28 and June 5 resulted in the deaths of four civilians in Ghat District and displaced more than 4,200 people from Ghat town to neighboring areas, according to the UN. Humanitarian organizations report food, health, and shelter assistance as the primary needs among the affected population of approximately 20,000 people. UNHCR is coordinating with local relief actors to distribute basic household items, shelter materials, and water to more than 2,000 IDPs in the coming weeks.

POPULATION DISPLACEMENT

- In mid-March, security had stabilized sufficiently for IDPs to return to areas of origin in Darnah District. As of late May, approximately 9,000 people remained displaced within the district and 3,400 people remained displaced elsewhere in Libya, according to REACH. The presence of explosive remnants of war slowed population returns and caused damage to civilian infrastructure, including health facilities, power grids, and shelters, REACH reports. IDPs in Darnah cited their primary needs as basic household supplies and shelter, while non-displaced conflict-affected populations cited multipurpose cash, food, and WASH assistance, as well as health care services, according to REACH. The UN conducted an interagency humanitarian mission to the city of Darnah on February 21, its first in more than five years; conflict in the district between May 2018 and February 2019 displaced approximately 35,000 people.

HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION

- Protection is the primary humanitarian need in Libya identified in the 2019 HNO. Direct exposure to conflict, explosive hazard contamination in urban areas, human rights abuses and violations, and impediments to access critical services and essential commodities have contributed to an estimated 490,000 people, including 134,000 children, requiring protection assistance, the UN reports. In accordance with the 2019 HRP, relief actors aim to reach

approximately 234,000 people through increased protection monitoring and assessments; expanded protection services and referral pathways; continued capacity-building initiatives for stakeholders; reinforced community-based protection approaches and services; and the provision of basic socio-economic support to refugees and migrants at risk of otherwise resorting to harmful coping strategies.

- In response to increased protection needs resulting from ongoing insecurity, Protection Cluster³ partners had reached nearly 2,800 people with psycho-social support (PSS) services and distributed dignity kits to nearly 3,500 women and girls in and near Tripoli as of April 18. Cluster partners are targeting their response to reach IDPs sheltering at collective sites and other conflict-affected populations, including migrants. UNICEF had reached 1,400 displaced children with PSS services and recreational activities and provided 225 caregivers with child protection awareness and PSS sessions at seven IDP collective sites in Tripoli as of April 22. In addition, relief actors conducted gender-based violence workshops for 3,400 people in the district from April 4–22, the UN reports.
- Since October 2017, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$2 million to protection programs in Libya, including support to conflict-affected adolescents, prevention of and response to gender-based violence, and referral of PSS cases for specialized care.

HEALTH

- Nearly 20 percent of the Libya's health care facilities have been partially or completely destroyed by conflict, only 40 percent of hospitals have sufficient supplies of medicine available, and the protracted crisis has limited civilian populations' access to health care services and weakened the capacity of health care workers, according to the UN. Consequently, the UN identified an estimated 554,000 people in need of health care assistance in the 2019 HNO, 388,000 of whom it aims to reach under the 2019 HRP. Priority health care activities include providing a minimum package of integrated health services, enhancing disease surveillance, improving response coordination, and strengthening health care workers' capacity.
- Hostilities in Tripoli have impeded access to health care services for the district's residents. The conflict had killed or injured at least eight health care workers, damaged at least 12 ambulances, and resulted in the evacuation of two hospitals as of May 10, the UN reports.
- In early April, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) distributed emergency medical supplies and trauma kits to 11 health facilities throughout Libya. The supplies will help provide basic medical treatment to as many as 1.1 million people, while the trauma kits will enhance the facilities' readiness to treat more than 2,000 injuries. In addition, two mobile medical teams treated nearly 90 patients—including more than 50 IDPs—from April 20–21.
- USAID/OFDA continues to support the provision of emergency health care services in Libya through more than \$5 million since October 2017. With USAID/OFDA support, partners provide primary health care services through stationary health clinics, employ mobile health teams to reach rural or hard-to-reach communities, and train staff of community health centers to bolster health systems in Libya.

FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION, AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

- Household access to food commodities was adversely affected after fighting commenced in Tripoli, according to REACH. Widespread market and store closures, coupled with restricted movement, have occasionally led to food commodity shortages, REACH reports. Should hostilities in Tripoli persist, the UN projects that more than 100,000 people could require emergency food assistance.
- As of May 31, the UN had provided direct assistance to more than 18,200 people in and near Tripoli, including through the Rapid Response Mechanism, which provides minimum assistance packages containing food rations and relief commodities to IDPs and other vulnerable populations. In addition, the UN World Food Program has pre-positioned dry food rations in the Tripoli area to meet the needs of newly displaced populations.

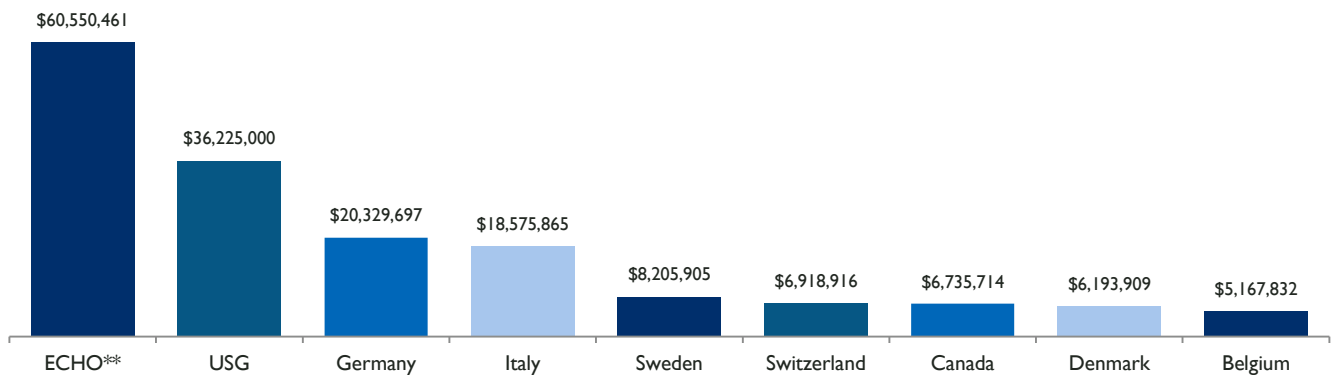
³ The coordinating body for humanitarian protection activities in Libya, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

- A UNICEF-chartered plane delivered nearly 18 metric tons of nutrition and relief commodities to Libya on May 5. The commodities included High Energy Biscuits and emergency rations sufficient to sustain 1,400 people for one week, Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food to treat as many as 250 children suffering from severe acute malnutrition, and hygiene kits to assist 800 people.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The UN and relief actors reached an estimated 52,000 conflict-affected people with humanitarian assistance from April 4–June 10. Primary forms of assistance have included food and relief commodities; hygiene kits; and health care and protection services.
- Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Mark Lowcock allocated \$2 million from the UN Central Emergency Fund to provide life-saving assistance to civilians, including migrants and refugees, on April 17. The allocation will support hospitals and health clinics to conduct emergency and primary medical care services, allow aid agencies to provide food and relief items to IDPs, and support the safe relocation of migrants and refugees from detention centers near the hostilities.
- Donors have contributed more than \$42 million to support the Libya response to date in 2019, according to OCHA. Of the total, donors had provided \$27 million, more than 13 percent, of the nearly \$202 million requested for the 2019 Libya HRP as of June 14.

2018–2019 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING* PER DONOR



*Funding figures are as of June 14, 2019. All international figures are according to OCHA's Financial Tracking Service and based on international commitments during the 2018 and 2019 calendar years. However, U.S. Government (USG) figures are according to the USG and reflect the most recent USG commitments based on fiscal years 2018 and 2019, which began on October 1, 2017, and October 1, 2018, respectively.

**European Commission's Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO)

CONTEXT

- Armed conflict, civil unrest, and political instability have plagued Libya since 2011. Fluctuations in localized conflict—ongoing since 2014—and economic volatility, combined with Libya's status as a major transit country for refugees and migrants, have contributed to turmoil in the country. Consequently, the UN estimates as many as 823,000 people in Libya will require humanitarian assistance in 2019.
- On November 14, 2018, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Natalie A. Baker issued a disaster declaration for Libya due to the effects of the ongoing complex emergency and lack of local capacity to effectively address the humanitarian needs of conflict-affected populations.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LIBYA RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019⁴

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management (HCIM), Protection	Countrywide; Al Jufrah, Benghazi, Dharna, Ghat, Misrata, Murzuq, Sabha, Sirte, Tripoli, Wadi Ash Shati districts	\$8,625,000
OCHA	HCIM	Countrywide	\$500,000
WHO	Health	Benghazi, Al Marqab, Misrata, Tripoli, Al Wahat districts	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$10,125,000
STATE/PRM			
IP	Capacity Building, Food Assistance, Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, WASH	Countrywide	\$20,100,000
UNHCR	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Multipurpose Cash Assistance, Protection, Shelter and Settlements	Countrywide	\$6,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$26,100,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE COUNTRY RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019			\$36,225,000

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.

USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.

More information can be found at:

- USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>

⁴ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 14, 2019.