

# LIBYA

14 March 2023

## Key Figures:

**134,787** Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)<sup>1</sup>

**695,516** IDP returnees<sup>1</sup>

**42,821** registered refugees and asylum seekers<sup>2</sup>

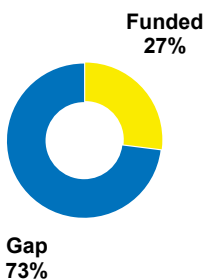
**126** monitoring visits to detention centres so far in 2023

**8** refugees and asylum seekers were transferred from detention to urban setting so far in 2023

**161** vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers have departed so far in 2023

## Funding

USD **70.0** M required for 2023



<sup>1</sup> IOM-DTM Aug 2022.  
<sup>2</sup> Data as of 1 Mar 2023.

## Highlights

On 9 March, UNHCR [evacuated](#) 150 asylum seekers and refugees, including 48 women and 46 children, from Libya to safety in Rwanda, on UNHCR's first evacuation flight of the year. The group included children, women at risk, survivors of violence, people with medical conditions, survivors of trafficking and some who had recently been released from detention. In Rwanda, the asylum seekers and refugees will stay at the Emergency Transit Centre, where UNHCR will provide them with accommodation, food, water, medical care, psychosocial support, and language classes, while aiming to find durable solutions such as resettlement to third countries or voluntary return where it is possible. UNHCR continues to urge countries to provide more legal pathways to help some of the most vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees reach safety. UNHCR is grateful to the relevant Libyan authorities for their support and cooperation in facilitating the organization of these humanitarian evacuation flights.



UNHCR staff assisting asylum seekers and refugees on their way to the airport. ©UNHCR

On 9 March, UNHCR Libya launched its [Help Page](#) in Oromo language, making Libya one of the few operations globally running the page in six languages, with an aim to ensure a wider range of accessibility. The page provides information, phone numbers, emails and useful videos for asylum seekers and refugees in Libya and is one of the main tools strengthening UNHCR's communication with the communities in Libya by providing a trusted source for updated information.

UNHCR celebrated International Women's Day by releasing a [video](#), honouring refugee women who have overcome incredible obstacles to become self-reliant and help their families and communities.

## Population Movements

So far in 2023, more than 3,400 individuals have been reported as rescued or intercepted by the Libyan authorities. Last week, six operations were carried out, with more than 400 survivors. Five disembarkations were by the Libyan Coast Guard at Tripoli Commercial Port, Tripoli Naval Base, Azzawya Oil Refinery Port and Azzawya Marsa Deelah, and one was by the Libyan Navy at Tajoura Port. UNHCR and partner International Rescue Committee (IRC) attended four disembarkations and provided medical assistance and non-food items (NFIs) to all survivors.

## UNHCR Response

UNHCR, with partners, continues to provide help and services to some of the most vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees. Last week, IRC distributed NFIs to 190 individuals, including 65 women and 44 children at the Community Day Centre (CDC). In addition, 23 individuals were targeted with NFI assistance in urban setting, while 12 people were provided with clothing kits in Serraj Office. Partner CESVI provided emergency cash assistance to a total of 64 households (115 individuals) at the CDC. Last week, IRC provided 440 general health and reproductive health consultations, and referred 43 individuals to public hospitals and private clinics. IRC medical team also supported 27 individuals through the 24/7 hotline, 17 of whom were referred for secondary medical assessments.

As of 5 March, 3,817 people are estimated to be in detention centres (DCs) across Libya, of whom more than 900 are from nationalities UNHCR registers in Libya. Last week, UNHCR in partnership with LibAid, distributed NFIs and hygiene kits to around 100 asylum seekers and migrants in Guanfooda and Shahat DCs. IRC also carried out visits to Triq Al-Sikka, Triq Al-Matar and Ain Zara DCs, where 170 medical consultations were provided.

At the Serraj Registration Centre, UNHCR identified 57 individuals who have reportedly escaped or been released from trafficking camps. They were all referred for protection interviews to identify their needs and provide the necessary assistance. Last week, 20 best interest assessments and 66 protection needs assessments were conducted with children and adults to identify their protection concerns, and assess their needs, including referrals to specialized services.

UNHCR outreach team carried out two field visits to Ghout Al Shaal and Drebi areas of Tripoli targeting 60 individuals from Eritrea. Several issues and vulnerabilities were identified, and referrals were made for specialized services according to the identified needs. Last week, as part of the community-based care arrangement programme run by partner CESVI, four asylum seekers and/or refugees were placed in care arrangement and eleven were integrated within their communities. As of 9 March, there were around 50 active caregivers across Tripoli, with more than 120 vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees benefitting from the programme.

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