

### Highlights

**On 7 May, UNHCR assisted the evacuation of 119 asylum-seekers to Italy on the second humanitarian evacuation flight from Libya this year.** Among the evacuated individuals were women at risk, survivors of violence, and people with severe medical conditions. The majority of those evacuated were asylum-seekers and refugees from Sudan, followed by Ethiopia and Eritrea. Since 2017, UNHCR has successfully evacuated over 1,400 individuals to Italy alone. So far this year, 494 refugees and asylum-seekers departed Libya through evacuation, resettlement, and complementary pathways.

**UNHCR's Regional Director of MENA, Ayman Gharabeh, concluded his first mission to Libya in early May.** During the three-day visit, he held several high-level meetings with senior officials in Tripoli, the Italian and EU ambassadors, and the larger donor and UN community, in addition to refugees and UNHCR staff.

**Sudanese asylum-seekers and refugees continue to arrive in Libya following the outbreak of conflict in Sudan.** As of end May, UNHCR had registered a total of 40,767 Sudanese refugees, out of this, almost 20,000 Sudanese refugees cite their arrival in Libya after mid-April 2023. UNHCR continues to engage with Sudanese across the country to assess protection risks and identify the needs of new arrivals. These efforts include house visits, in-depth protection needs assessments, phone verifications and consultations with the community. Individual assistance is provided based on available resources, prioritizing those at heightened risks such as women with children, unaccompanied children and elderly people and includes family reunification when possible. **On 28 and 29 May, UNHCR and partner LibAid conducted a two-day distribution to Sudanese refugees in Alkufra.** Essential relief items and hygiene kits were provided to 386 Sudanese refugee families in Alkufra. The supplies include blankets, solar lamps, plastic sheets, jerry cans, hygiene kits for both men and women, and washing bowls. The distribution was the first to refugees in the urban setting in Alkufra with more distributions expected to follow. **The health authorities warned about the presence of infectious diseases among people arriving from Sudan, describing the health situation in Alkufra as challenging.** On 16 May, UNHCR delivered essential medicines to health authorities in Alkufra to support covering the needs of more than 15,000 patients in Alkufra hospitals, among them many Sudanese refugees.

**On 12 May a joint UN donor briefing was held,** aiming to provide an update on the current situation on the ground and the way forward in coordinating the Sudan response as well as informing on urgent financial requirements. **It was followed by the release of the Response Plan for Sudanese Refugees in Libya, together with 14 UN agencies and international NGOs on 29 May.** While UNHCR leads the Regional Refugee Response Plan for Sudan, Libya was not included so far. However, the numbers of Sudanese refugees arriving in Libya continue to increase, especially since the violence in neighbouring Darfur intensified, which has necessitated the appeal for support and coordinated response. The plan requires USD 43.8 million for provision of humanitarian assistance in 2024. **UNHCR chairs Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) meeting with participation of agencies and INGOs providing assistance to Sudanese refugees in Libya.** The IAWG proposed to establish task forces focusing on protection, health, food security/nutrition, education, non-food items, wash, and shelter.

**From 21-23 May, the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Libya, Georgette Gagnon, and the UNHCR Libya Chief of Mission, Aseer Al-Madaeni visited Benghazi on a joint mission to hold discussions on the assistance international organizations can provide to support the efforts undertaken by authorities.** It was the first time the UNHCR Chief of Mission was in Benghazi, also visiting Derna where briefings by flood-affected persons were held.



**125,802** internally displaced people (IDPs), among them **50,000** currently internally displaced people (IDPs) with remaining displacement-related needs<sup>2</sup>  
**44,862** IDPs in north-eastern regions following Storm Daniel<sup>3</sup>



**65,099** registered refugees and asylum-seekers<sup>4</sup>



**162** visits to detention centres in 2024



**81** refugees and asylum-seekers were transferred from detention to urban setting in 2024



**494** asylum-seekers and refugees at heightened risk departed so far in 2024

<sup>1</sup> IOM Displacement and Solutions Report August 2023

<sup>2</sup> Based on the press release by UN Geneva)

<sup>3</sup> IOM Update on displacement and needs (November 2023)

<sup>4</sup> As of 1 June 2024

**On 8 May, UNHCR and UNICEF signed a letter of understanding to enhance humanitarian support for those in need.** The agreement, signed by UNHCR Libya Chief of Mission Aseer Al-Madaien and UNICEF Libya Representative Michele Servadei, will focus on joint initiatives in education, water, sanitation and hygiene interventions, and child protection.

**On 29 May, UNHCR participated in a UN interagency mission to Al-Assa facility in which persons intercepted at the Libyan-Tunisian borders are held.** More than 350 people are estimated to be held at the facility, including 22 women and 10 children as of 31 May. The mission was conducted for monitoring, protection, and medical purposes as well as for the distribution of non-food items (NFIs). Through partner International Rescue Committee (IRC), UNHCR provided NFIs, including hygiene kits, mattresses, soap bars, jerrycans, blankets, and refreshments kits, to cover the needs of 480 people. Since June 2023, more than 10,600 migrants and persons in need of international protection have been intercepted at the border with Tunisia by the Libyan authorities.

**Cash assistance is key to building the resilience of asylum-seekers and refugees with heightened protection risks.** Since the start of 2024, UNHCR, together with partners CESVI and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), provided emergency cash assistance and vouchers to over 1,000 individuals to cover their basic needs.

## Population Movements

**In 2024, more than 7,000 individuals (including 451 women and 221 children) have been reported as rescued/intercepted by the Libyan authorities.** A total of 282 deaths and 449 people missing are reported on the Central Mediterranean route so far this year.

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## Funding

USD **67.5 M** required for 2024

