



# HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## to the Libyan Crisis



28 February 2011 - 27 September 2011  
Seven-month Report on IOM's Response





# Table of Contents

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	2
OVERVIEW	3
WAY FORWARD	4
COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS	5
LIBYA	6
Benghazi	6
Misrata	7
Tripoli	8
Sebha	8
TUNISIA	10
Cross-border movements	10
Evacuation	11
Humanitarian Assistance	11
Health and Psychosocial Assistance	12
Protection	12
EGYPT	13
Cross-border movement	13
Evacuation	14
Humanitarian Assistance	15
Health and Psychosocial Assistance	15
CHAD	16
Cross-border movement	16
Evacuation	17
Humanitarian Assistance	17
Health and Psychosocial Assistance	18
NIGER	18
Cross-border movements	18
Evacuation	19
Humanitarian Assistance	19
ITALY AND MALTA	20
Cross-border movements	20
Humanitarian Assistance	20
FINANCIAL STATEMENT	21
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS	22
CONCLUSION	23





# List of Abbreviations

HEC	Humanitarian Evacuation Cell
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LP	Laissez-passer
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NFI	Non-Food Items
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTC	National Transitional Council
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
TCN	Third Country National
UAM	Unaccompanied Minor
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WFP	World Food Programme





# Overview

- In February 2011, civil unrest in Libya rapidly evolved into an armed conflict between the Pro-Gaddafi Forces and the rebels of the National Transitional Council (NTC) with air support from NATO forces. Seven months later, at the end of August, the conflict reached its climax with the fall of the Gaddafi regime ousted out of Tripoli.
- By the end of September sporadic battles were still on-going in Gaddafi strongholds in Syrte and Bani Walid, while **most of the country was under the control of the NTC** and already planning its reconstruction and political transition, thus marking the **end of the emergency phase**.
- Since the end of February 2011, according to information compiled by IOM from national sources at the Tunisian, Egyptian, Algerian, Chadian, Sudanese and Nigerien borders as well as in Italy and Malta, **706,000 migrants have crossed Libyan borders**<sup>1</sup>.
- This massive outflow of people fleeing the violence, **one of the largest migration crisis in modern history**, has been composed of not only migrants directly crossing the border to return to their country of origin including Egyptians, Tunisians, Nigerien, Algerian, Sudanese and Chadians, but also **Third Country Nationals (TCNs)**<sup>2</sup> who represented more than 120 nationalities and 45% of the flows. While Libyans also crossed the borders - mostly going back and forth, the Libyan crisis did not degenerate into a refugee crisis and remained mostly a migration crisis.
- This report provides an overview of IOM's emergency response to this major migration crisis over the past 7 months. IOM conducted its operations upon request from Member States and in accordance with its mandate and constitution to provide life-saving support to migrants in need, in close coordination with UN agencies and others partners.<sup>3</sup>
- Since the onset of the crisis, IOM's strategy has been to support Member States protecting their nationals by providing evacuation

## assistance to stranded migrants in and outside Libya.

- IOM emergency operations have undergone two major phases:

**February - June:** During the first months, massive evacuation operations were conducted in the four main countries where migrants found refuge (Egypt, Tunisia, Niger and Chad) to cope with the massive flows out of Libya. Overall, IOM and its partners have provided transportation assistance to more than **210,000 stranded TCNs** (93% were assisted between February and June), departing from Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Chad, Niger and Libya. One main objective was the decongestion of the borders to prevent a spread of the crisis to neighbouring countries. To this end, at the beginning of March, IOM and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) joined forces to coordinate evacuation efforts and set up the Humanitarian Evacuation Cell (HEC) at the central level. The HEC is currently hosted by IOM.

**June - September:** As cross-border movements out of Libya decreased substantially in June, IOM strived to remain active in Libya - security permitting, to reach out to stranded migrants, while maintaining its evacuation operations in neighbouring countries. So far, IOM has undertaken the evacuation of 38,000 migrants stranded in **Misrata, Sebha, Gatrout, Tripoli, and Benghazi** through a combination of means of transportation (boat, bus, and plane). IOM's assistance to stranded migrants inside Libya, despite logistical challenges, has been possible because of IOM expertise in movement management and thanks to its experienced operational staff on the ground.

<sup>1</sup> Cross-border movement statistics only refer to migrants leaving Libya. It doesn't take into account Libyans nationals that are going back and forth into Libya.

<sup>2</sup> In the context of the Libyan Crisis, "Third Country Nationals" (TCNs) is referring to migrants who crossed the border from Libya to find refuge in a country that is not their country of origin.

<sup>3</sup> The Flash Appeal issued in March and revised in May covered the emergency phase. After the fall of Tripoli, a 30-day Action Plan has been endorsed to cover September. As of 1 October, the Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP) covers for the residual humanitarian needs in 2011. <http://www.ops.unocha.org>



# Way Forward

- Although the country is evolving with a transitional government, the situation remains volatile with a number of **residual humanitarian needs** waiting to be addressed in Libya.
- IOM foresees that a number of migrants, although limited in comparison to the onset of the crisis, will seek to leave the country, while many more have expressed their wish to stay in the hope of resuming work to support reconstruction efforts. **IOM, together with OHCHR and human rights organisations, have voiced concerned over the plight of Sub-Saharan migrants** facing the risk of being arbitrarily targeted and victims of human rights violations.<sup>4</sup>
- Before the crisis, the Libyan economy was largely reliant on foreign workers - including highly skilled labour (engineering), specialized labour (doctors, nurses, health workers) and unskilled (cleaning service, refinery, construction) - the latter including many irregular migrants. The conflict has put the economy on hold, with a slow-down of oil exportation and an exodus of medical staff. **The role that migrants will play in the future of Libya is still uncertain but will require a balanced approach to meet labour needs while respecting their human rights and dignity.**
- Although timely intervention has prevented humanitarian crises at border areas, the **massive return of migrants to their country of origin is not without consequence.** Hundreds of thousands of returnees to Niger, Chad, Bangladesh and other countries, combined with a sudden and drastic drop in remittance flows from Libya, has meant that areas of high return in those countries have strongly felt the side-effects of the Libyan shock wave. IOM has conducted registration and profiling exercises of returnees to map needs in areas of return and pave the way for reintegration and community stabilization programmes, while mitigating the risk of secondary migration through dangerous means.
- **Countries of the Sahel are on the IOM early warning watch list due their exposure to food insecurity and the potential instability brought by massive return.** The Organization is advocating for the development, financing and implementation of comprehensive sustainable livelihood programmes in those countries.

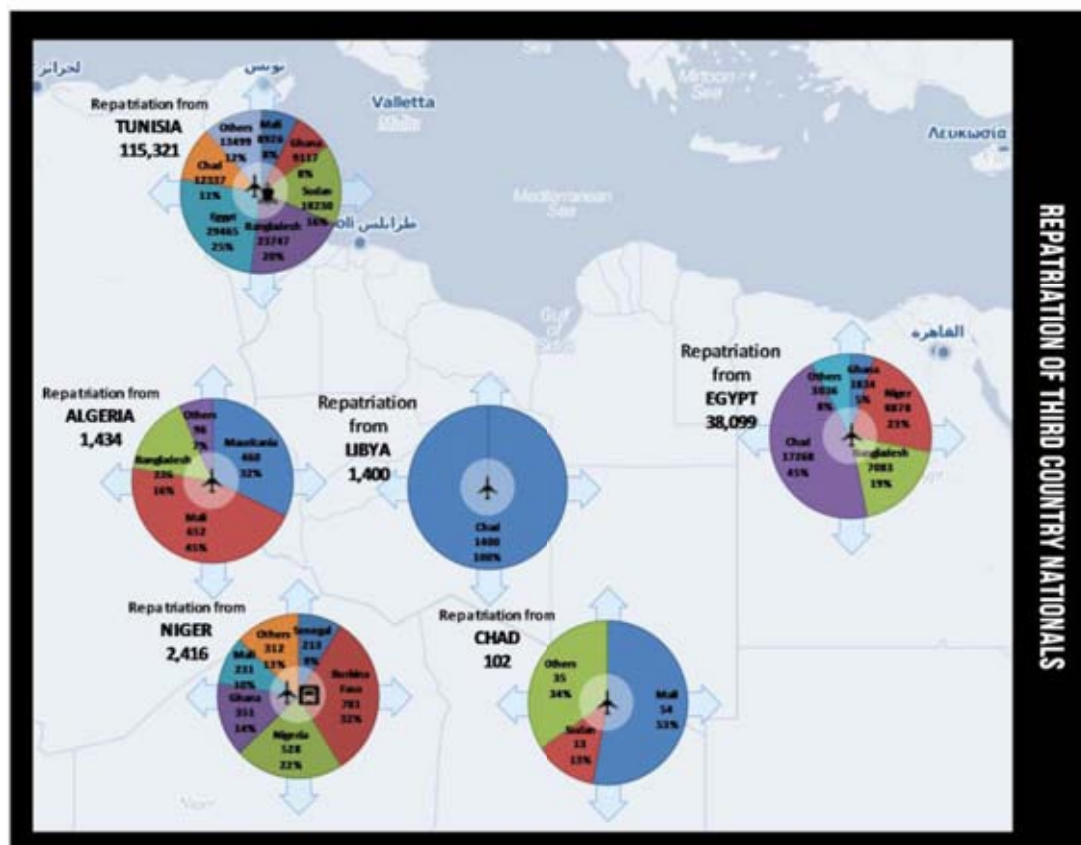
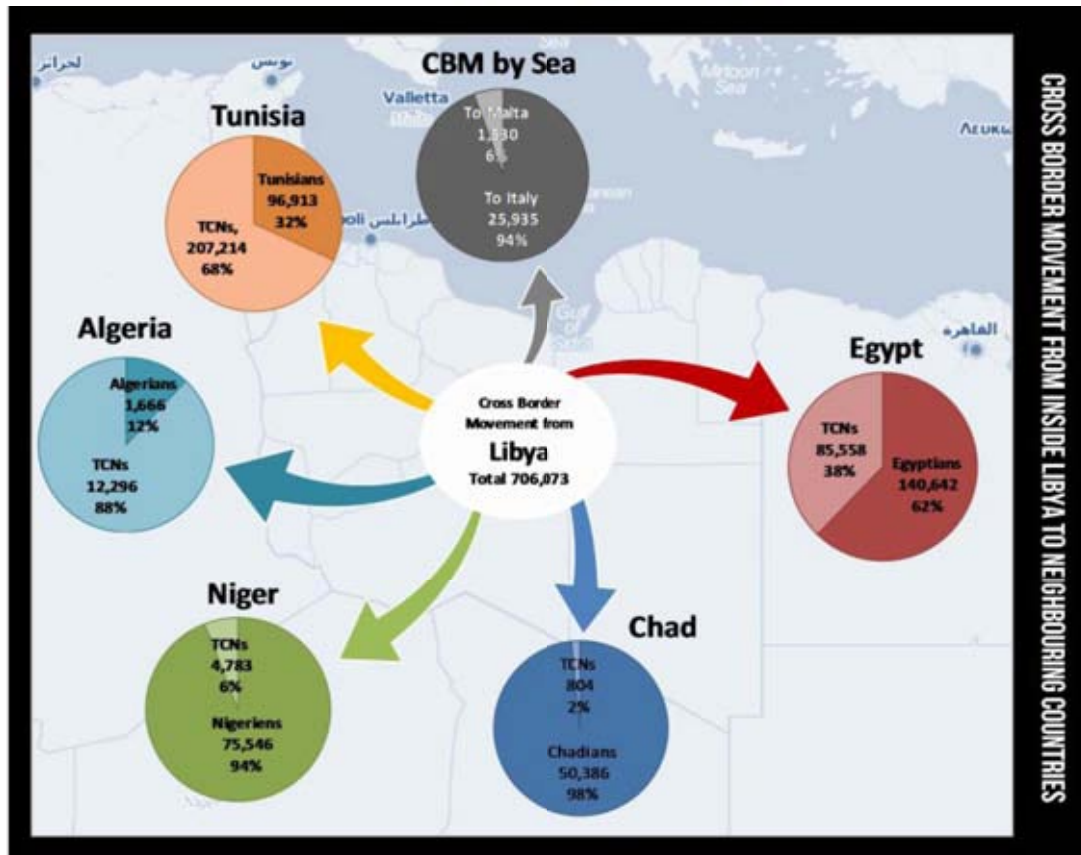
<sup>4</sup> For more information on migrants in need of protection, see the IOM Press Briefing Notes, posted on Friday 2 September: "Increasing Reports of Migrants in Need of Protection in Tripoli", <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnAF/cache/offence?entryId=30456>







# Country Highlights





# Libya

- ➔ Despite the relative calm in the country following the fall of Tripoli in August, IOM and human rights partners remain vigilant to the plight of migrant populations and in particular Sub-Saharan African migrants, who are sometimes arbitrarily targeted because of alleged compromising with the previous regime.
- ➔ Operating in high risk environments, IOM was often the first responder to evacuate people in need as soon as security permitted. IOM evacuations of stranded migrants out of Libya has closely followed the evolution of the battleground:



The first evacuations took place in early March from Benghazi which was the first city controlled by the rebellion. After a new phase of fighting in April, IOM resumed its operations in Benghazi where it established an operational hub for other operations in Eastern Libya. During the siege of Misrata from 23 March to 25 April, IOM sent vessels to assist migrants stranded in the city and in the harbour. After obtaining clearance, IOM eventually reached the cities of Sebha and Gatrout in Southern Libya where it found vulnerable migrants in dire need of humanitarian assistance. While IOM remotely supported consulates in bussing their nationals from Tripoli and surrounding areas to the Tunisian border for onward evacuation, the fall of Tripoli has made it crucial for the Organization to urgently evacuate migrants stranded in the port area and to start registering candidates for evacuation to their countries of origin.

## BENGHAZI

- ➔ By the end of September, IOM had evacuated 16,800 migrants from Benghazi to Sallum, Egypt.
- ➔ Migrants stranded in Benghazi have been the first to benefit from IOM's evacuation assistance within Libya. In March, as fighting affected the city, IOM organised evacuations by boat with one rotation transporting 521 persons to Alexandria on 6 March and by land to Sallum at the Egyptian-Libyan border (5,128 persons evacuated by 5 April) where onward transportation to final destinations was arranged. This also included travel health assistance including rapid pre-departure fitness-to-travel health checks, facilitating health care to hospitals and providing medical escorts where needed.
- ➔ The security situation deteriorated at the end of March, and in April a new offensive of the pro-Gaddafi forces prompted UN organisations to leave the city. IOM continued to manage convoys from Benghazi to the Egyptian border remotely with the support of the Libyan Red Crescent.
- ➔ IOM eventually resumed its presence in Benghazi on 13 April working closely with the local civil society. Since then, Benghazi has been used as an operational hub and a transit centre set-up for land transport to the Egyptian border crossing-point in Sallum. This permanent presence has inter alia supported IOM evacuation operations out of Misrata from 15 April to 21 August (see below).
- ➔ Since September, the IOM Benghazi operational hub has been also used as a base for needs-assessments in the South-East region of Libya including the Kufrah district, a traditional way-town for smugglers and human traffickers.
- ➔ Additionally, IOM has been supporting the transit centre managed by the Libyan Red Crescent while seeking to strengthen the health system which has been greatly depleted with the departure of qualified foreign medical staff (mostly Egyptians and Filipinos).





*Migrants evacuated from Libyan Red Crescent's Transit Centre in Benghazi to Sallum*



*Migrants assisted to board ship at Benghazi port*

## MISRATA

- ➔ As the city of Misrata was the front line of the confrontation until the rebels pushed back the pro-regime forces around 25 April, thousands of migrants found refuge in the port of Misrata, living in fear and inhuman conditions, in the open air or abandoned containers.
- ➔ On 15 April 2011, IOM began its first rescue operation by sea and took 1,206 migrants on board its chartered boat, the Ionian Spirit. Report of ongoing evacuations spread and additional migrants braved the security threats to reach the harbour and flee the besieged city.
- ➔ In total, 15 evacuations transporting a total of 8,432 stranded migrants (from 30 different nationalities) were operated by IOM from Misrata to Benghazi between 15 April and 21 August. Onward transport from Benghazi to Sallum (Egypt) for processing to final destinations were then organised for these migrants.
- ➔ Continuous shelling of the port and hazardous work conditions forced IOM teams to remain alert and flexible in order to respond extremely rapidly to the situation. IOM used the ship to deliver humanitarian assistance offered by the people of Benghazi to the people of Misrata. In total 2,100 tons of humanitarian aid, such as food, NFIs, medical supplies (including 8 ambulances) were delivered to the besieged city along with medical personnel to supply hospitals and medical centres in Misrata.
- ➔ IOM also evacuated a total of 503 medical cases, including wounded civilians, from the besieged city to the comparatively safer environment in Benghazi where they could benefit from appropriate medical treatment.



*Evacuation from Misrata by Ship*



*Medical supplies including ambulances were delivered*



*2,100 tons of humanitarian aid were delivered*



*Medical cases evacuated from Misrata*



## TRIPOLI

- ➔ Throughout the crisis, IOM has been able to maintain contacts with consular authorities in Tripoli and support road transport to the Tunisian border point in Ras Adjir. At the border IOM has been receiving migrants and organizing their evacuation to their countries of origin.<sup>5</sup>
- ➔ From 11 April to the end of September, 10,092 migrants have been evacuated from Tripoli to Ras Adjir by bus.
- ➔ With Tripoli falling under the control of the NTC at the end of August, IOM has initiated humanitarian evacuation by sea and by air for migrants who expressed the wish to leave Tripoli. The security conditions rendered the operation difficult, with limited mobility due to the presence of snipers and of many check-points throughout the city and on the way to the sea-port.
- ➔ Despite the tense security situation, as soon as access to the city had been reopened IOM organised the first rotation by sea on 24 August bringing operational and medical staff, medical aid and humanitarian workers from various organizations to Tripoli.
- ➔ With this rotation, the first group of 263 people was successfully evacuated from Tripoli to Benghazi, where they were temporarily accommodated at the transit centre before being taken by IOM to the Egyptian border and eventually assisted to return to their home countries.
- ➔ Since then, IOM has operated three rotations out of Tripoli and evacuated 1,359 persons from 26 nationalities including Egyptians, European and Asian nationals.
- ➔ Several thousand migrants have registered for assistance in the month of September with a thousand more expressing their wish to stay in the hope of resuming work to support reconstruction efforts. IOM together with OHCHR and human rights organizations have voiced concerned over the plight of Sub-Saharan migrants stranded in the city and in its outskirts who are facing the risk of being arbitrarily targeted and victims of human rights violations.<sup>6</sup>
- ➔ Since July, IOM has participated in an Inter-Agency Needs Assessment (IANA) covering the Tripoli region and the Nafusa Mountains, including in rebel controlled areas from Nalut through Zintan up until Yefran and Bir Ayyad. The IANA identified a number of priorities to which IOM responded by initiating procurement for the distribution of hygiene kits. In coordination with WFP, IOM also facilitated the delivery of tons of donated milk powder.

<sup>5</sup> For the figures of TCNs evacuated from Tunisia, see on p. 11.

<sup>6</sup> For more information on migrants in need of protection, see the IOM Press Briefing Notes, posted on Friday 2 September: "Increasing Reports of Migrants in Need of Protection in Tripoli", <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnAF/cache/offonce?entryid=30456>

## SEBHA

- ➔ In the Southern cities of Sebha and Gatrour, through close contact with consular authorities from neighbouring Niger and Chad, IOM was informed as early as May of the presence of migrants stranded with no means or in no physical condition to pursue the difficult journey through the desert to Niger or Chad. According to some reports, up to 25,000 migrants were stranded in this area, awaiting trucks, financial support or improved security to continue their journey southward.
- ➔ IOM works closely with diplomatic sources to obtain the needed clearance from the different parties to the conflict, including the pro-Gaddafi regime, the NTC, NATO and the Nigerian Military. In July, IOM Chad embarked on a challenging mission to the South of Libya. It was the first humanitarian mission to take place in this area since the beginning of the outbreak of widespread violence. After an initial assessment in Gatrour and Sebha, IOM identified thousands of migrants, mostly Chadians nationals, who were trapped.
- ➔ IOM established a way station in Sebha, providing all necessary support (food, NFIs, medical assistance, registration, shelter) to the stranded migrants. Because an evacuation by road was too risky and in light of the health conditions of the migrants, IOM opted for an air evacuation.



- ➔ From 6 to 30 July, through 10 air rotations, a total of 1,400 most vulnerable migrants (including families, single female migrants, medical cases etc.) were evacuated to N'Djamena, Chad.
- ➔ In August and September, as fighting intensified in the coastal cities, the flow of migrants into Sebha increased. In mid-September, security in the town was deteriorating rapidly as fighting between Gaddafi's loyalists and rebels continued around Sebha. To accommodate the approximate 3,000 migrants present in Sebha, IOM rented a compound adjacent to its transit centre.







# Tunisia

- ➔ Tunisia has been the largest recipient of migrants fleeing from Libya. 43% of the total number of migrants who fled Libya crossed into Tunisia.
- ➔ The Tunisian authorities addressed this critical humanitarian situation by allowing relief organisations to set-up camps, catering for fleeing migrants, at the border near Ras Adjir.
- ➔ Prompt collaboration with the authorities and donor support to sustain this massive emergency evacuation has limited the risk for the humanitarian crisis to spread to Tunisia.
- ➔ Although in lower numbers, more than 7 months onwards, migrants are still fleeing Libya leading IOM to maintain its evacuation on the ground while dealing with an increased case load of vulnerable TCNs requiring special assistance and protection.



## Cross-border Movement

- ➔ Due to its proximity to Tripoli and other major Libyan cities, Tunisians and migrants from other nationalities have flocked to the main border points of Ras Adjir and Dehiba.
- ➔ In total, from the beginning of the crisis to the end of September, almost 97,000 Tunisians and 207,000 TCNs have fled Libya through the Tunisian border<sup>7</sup>.
- ➔ The first three months of the crisis witnessed massive cross border movements reaching 7,000 arrivals a day on 7 March. At its peak, the camps, set up at the border, accommodated up to 20,000 TCNs. At that time, flows of TCNs were mainly composed of single young men who had lost their job when the conflict started paralysing the country.
- ➔ In June, flows decreased by two third (1,795 people per day on average) to reach a low of 144 people on 28 August. However, although the numbers have decreased, IOM has witnessed an increase in the vulnerability of the TCNs, including more medical and emotionally distressed, vulnerable families and unaccompanied minors (UAMs).
- ➔ Land transportation has been provided by IOM between the border and camps and between the border and the airport with the assistance of teams working 24/7 to organise movements and travel health assistance as required.



Stranded migrants in Ras Adjir, border to Tunisia



Camp registration team in Ras Adjir

<sup>7</sup> For further details on daily cross-border movements, see IOM Migration Crisis from Libya Website at <http://www.migration-crisis.com/libya/>



## Evacuations

- ➔ By the end of September, IOM evacuated more than 115,300 persons from Tunisia. TCNs evacuated from Tunisia represented 48 nationalities including Egyptians (25%) or Bangladeshis (20%) as well as Sub-Saharan Africans (51%).
- ➔ During the height of the evacuation from 14 to 19 March, almost 4,000 persons were evacuated every day, with a peak on 15 March with 4,596 evacuees on board 22 charter flights. Most of the air evacuation from Tunisia used charter flights (552 charters in total).
- ➔ Despite challenges at the time in monitoring population flows, IOM was still able to maintain the rapid evacuation of TCNs back to their countries of origin including provision of medical escorts as needed, thereby freeing up space for arriving migrants and limiting deterioration of the humanitarian situations and minimizing incidents.
- ➔ During the past three months, the number of chartered flights has reduced as the large case-load of single nationalities crossing the border around the same time has diminished. IOM shifted to commercial flights to evacuate small pockets of TCNs from various countries. To date, IOM has booked a total of 3,509 seats for individual TCNs repatriated to their home country on-board



*Migrants in the bus to the airport for repatriation*



*Migrants ready for boarding the plane in Djerba, Tunisia*

## Humanitarian Assistance

- ➔ Through its lead role in the evacuation operation, IOM has been supporting the humanitarian coordination process under the UN umbrella. IOM has coordinated its activities with a large number of partners on the ground, including the local authorities, UN partners, and NGOs. It also benefited from the support of the local communities who came to help the displaced migrants.
- ➔ In cooperation with UNHCR, which assumed camp management responsibilities, a registration system was established to facilitate the process of identifying vulnerable cases as well as to distinguish TCNs who want to return from those with a refugee status or wishing to apply for asylum. The objective was to minimize waiting time before evacuation, to assess humanitarian needs and dispatch beneficiaries to the different camps established at the border.



*Migrants in transit camp receiving NFI*



*IOM team assisting migrants inside the camp*



## Health and Psychosocial Assistance

- ➔ Since March, the IOM Health Unit in Tunisia has carried out more than 76,000 rapid pre-departure checks both at the camps and at the Djerba airport to assure fitness to travel and continuity of care during the evacuation process.
- ➔ IOM has implemented a system of psychological first aid, counselling and referrals to local hospitals and health partners in the camp for TCNs in need of further evaluation or treatment before their repatriation. To secure continuity of care, technical assistance has been provided to the Ministry of Health for health referrals to local hospitals, and transportation assistance to health partners.
- ➔ IOM also committed to the treatment of TCNs affected by tuberculosis (TB). A TB nurse and a health community worker strengthened diagnostics, case management and patient support and care and was able to provide Daily Observed Treatment (DOT) to all tuberculosis patients at the Choucha camp. A medical doctor was seconded to the Medenine Regional Hospital TB Ward to enhance care and treatment for hospitalized TCNs.



## Protection

- ➔ The first phase of the emergency was characterised by large caseloads of single male migrants fleeing Libya, however with the prolonged crisis, the number of migrants fleeing Libya decreased while the relative number of vulnerable cases increased, including families, single-headed households, unaccompanied minor (UAMs) as well as medical and psychosocial cases.
- ➔ IOM has been working in close coordination with medical INGOs as well as the Tunisian Civil Protection and Tunisian Army to assist these people in need.
- ➔ The unaccompanied minors referral mechanism was set up between UNICEF, UNHCR and Save the Children since early June. Cases of UAMs are referred to an IOM protection team. From May to September, 87 children have been reunited with their families (1 departure to Cameroon, 11 to Chad, 4 to Egypt, 10 to Mali, 2 to Morocco, 55 to Niger, 3 to Senegal and 1 to Sudan).
- ➔ Screening interviews have targeted vulnerable TCNs in the camps (especially women at risk) and training sessions on counter trafficking for IOM, UNHCR and other Agencies were conducted during the last three months. The training covered basic tools for the identification of victims of trafficking and vulnerable cases and referral to the Protection Team.
- ➔ As part of IOM's activities to assist eligible refugees under the UNHCR resettlement programme, IOM has moved 510 refugees selected for resettlement to Norway (137), Switzerland (126), the United States of America (108), Canada (90), Belgium (25), the Netherlands (18) and Sweden (6). The main nationality represented in the resettled refugees is Eritrean (82%), followed by smaller caseloads of Somalis (8%) and Sudanese (5%) among others.





# Egypt

- ➔ The first country hit by the migration crisis stemming from Libya at the end of February, Egypt has received large numbers of migrants and Egyptians.
- ➔ The evacuation assistance organised by IOM supported the objective of limiting the impact of the crisis on Egypt.
- ➔ TCNs remained confined in the no man's land of Sallum until their case had been processed with IOM support in liaison with consular authorities. The Egyptian authorities allowed humanitarian organisations to reach out to this stranded population to provide assistance and protection.



## Cross-border Movement

- ➔ Egypt was the first country neighbouring Libya to experience the effect of the crisis. As early as 22 February, Egyptians as well as migrants and Libyans started fleeing Libya while the Libyan city of Benghazi, some 500 km from the border, was rising up against Gaddafi's regime.
- ➔ The situation at the border quickly became difficult to manage. Between 22 and 25 February 46,700 people crossed the border, of which 81% were Egyptians. It prompted humanitarian organisations like IOM into action to assist TCNs and the Egyptian authorities and respond to countries requests to support evacuations of their nationals.
- ➔ At the end of September, IOM, in cooperation with the border authorities, has recorded 226,200 persons, including 140,642 Egyptians (62%) and 85,558 TCNs (38%) crossing the border.
- ➔ A large portion of the TCNs fled on their own, with no request for assistance from IOM. This was especially the case for nationals from countries benefitting from a regime of free movement with Egypt (mainly nationals from Middle East countries) who did not have to wait for visa processing at the Sallum border crossing point.
- ➔ Prior to the crisis, an estimated 1 million Egyptians were residing in Libya, the largest group of migrants in the country. Thus, it came as no surprise to find large numbers of Egyptians

among the fleeing population. At one point, over 12,500 Egyptians crossed the border on a single day. In total, an estimated 166,000 Egyptians have returned home directly through the border but also by air, ground and sea evacuation.



*Situation in Sallum, Egypt border to Libya*



*IOM staff assisting arriving migrants from Libya*



## Evacuations

- ➔ By the end of September, IOM has repatriated from Egypt more than 38,000 persons. Most of the TCNs evacuated from Egypt are Chadians (45%) or Nigeriens (23%).
- ➔ The regular evacuation of TCNs matching the high number of arrivals at the border has been essential in preserving order at the Sallum border crossing point. The Sallum border witnessed a peak of TCN arrivals at the end of February with an average of 2,000 stranded TCNs arriving per day, with a peak of 3,200 TCNs recorded on 24 February.
- ➔ The logistics for the evacuation had to take into account that the Egyptian authorities only cleared TCNs with due Laissez-Passer (LP) and upon confirmation that they had been booked on an IOM chartered flight. The number of stranded persons in Sallum no man's land reached a height of 5,000 persons on 7 April. The caseload at the border momentarily increased at the beginning of April due to limited funds availability that slowed departure plans, increasing the total population of migrants awaiting transportation assistance as new arrivals continued at a sustained pace.
- ➔ IOM has been working closely with consular services to provide travel documents and LPs to the migrants who were not in possession of their documentation.
- ➔ Since the crisis began, IOM has moved 207 refugees to resettlement countries under the UNHCR programme that were previously living in Libya and fled to Egypt. A total of 187 refugees from Sudan (42%), Eritrea (28%), Somalia (17%), Ethiopia (9%) and Yemen (4%) have been resettled to Sweden; 13 Sudanese to Norway; and 7 Iraqis to the United States of America.
- ➔ During the past three months, the number of chartered flights reduced as large caseloads of single nationalities diminished. IOM shifted to commercial flights to evacuate small pockets of TCNs from various nationalities. At the end of September, a total of 6,361 TCNs had been evacuated from Egypt on commercial flights.
- ➔ By organising the evacuation through land movements directly from Benghazi, IOM has been able to anticipate evacuation needs and organise charter flights prior to the arrival of migrants.



Migrants in transit centre being briefed by IOM staff



Preparing exit cards at Sallum, border to Egypt



IOM staff coordinating arriving migrants



Migrants boarding to bus to go to the airport



## Humanitarian Assistance

- ➔ Since the beginning of the emergency, IOM has played a major role in providing statistical information on new arrivals to Sallum to other agencies on the ground on a daily basis. It has supported food distribution programmes and humanitarian assistance and protection.
- ➔ With no possibility to set up camp like facilities in the no man's land, IOM and humanitarian partners had to overcome difficulties to evaluate fluctuating needs and adjust assistance as well as to track vulnerable cases.
- ➔ IOM has distributed a total of 110,015 meals provided by WFP and the El Makhtoum Foundation to the migrants stranded at the border, as well as to those embarking on buses on route to the airport. WFP took over the distribution of food as of 30 April.
- ➔ In addition, 91,200 litres of water and 377 blankets were distributed by IOM during the first months of the emergency.

## Health and Psychosocial Assistance

- ➔ Since 8 March, IOM Health Unit at the Sallum border crossing point has provided pre-departure medical assessments for 31,717 TCNs. In case of medical concern that would impede them from travelling, they were referred to one of the local hospitals in the Matrouh District for treatment, with a medical escort whenever needed.
- ➔ Psychosocial support services were integrated in the care and treatment including psychological first aid, counselling, mental health referrals to specialized centres.
- ➔ As one of the only agencies providing health care in Sallum, IOM health staff also actively supported the mobile and fixed clinics from the Egyptian Ministry of Health.
- ➔ In September, 400 TCNs in Sallum faced a scabies epidemic. IOM has raised awareness among the community to educate them on scabies' treatment and methods to prevent the infection. Mass treatment has since been on-going to avoid extended contamination.



*IOM medical staff providing assistance in transit centre*



*Travel medical assistance was provided for the entire length of repatriation journey*

The IOM Health Unit has taken into its care a Nigerien man who was suffering from kidney failure. After the condition was assessed, the IOM doctor arranged for an ambulance to transfer him from the border crossing point to Matrouh city and to a hospital with dialysis facilities. As the services were not adequate for his care, through coordination with the Ministry of Health, IOM health staff were successful in placing the migrant in a better equipped hospital in Cairo to stabilize his health condition before he could continue his journey back home. IOM teams in Cairo and Niger ensured that the patient would receive adequate medical treatment upon arrival. Since he arrived in Niamey on 20 August, he has been treated at the main hospital while IOM is looking at a sustainable solution to meet his medical needs through reintegration assistance.





# Chad

- ➔ To date, IOM has assisted 82,200 Chadian returnees and TCNs through its network of way stations and transit centres and has supported 31,000 returnees with transportation to final destinations within Chad.
- ➔ In Chad, IOM carried out a dual emergency operation to assist large number of persons who crossed the border with Libya (51,200 persons) in northern Chad and returnees evacuated by air from Egypt and Tunisia (31,000 persons).
- ➔ Particularly in the North of the country, IOM has been the first international agency actively involved in the humanitarian assistance provided to the returnees from Libya. Under often very dire and stressful conditions in the middle of the Sahel desert IOM staff had to build shelters, drilled and rehabilitated wells, supported food distribution and pioneered registration exercises.

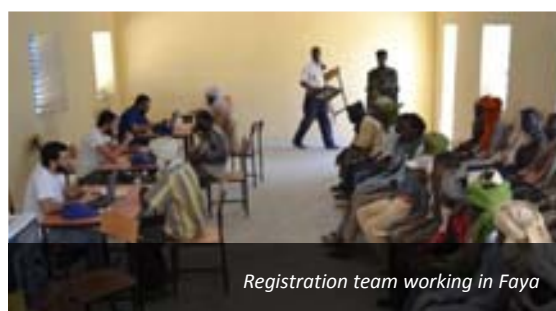


## Cross-border Movement

- ➔ Around 51,200 Chadians and 804 TCNs crossed the southern border of Libya by their own means. The first people fleeing Libya through the border were registered at the end of March, a month after the fighting began.
- ➔ The majority of the returnees arrived with trucks, often in deplorable conditions, after journeys that lasted between 15-30 days in the deserts of Southern Libya and Northern Chad.
- ➔ Two main entry routes have been identified to set-up transit centres and run the humanitarian and evacuation support:
  - A first route crosses from Libya through Niger to Kalait in Chad along a route known for banditry and organised robberies.
  - The second route runs directly into Chad to Faya, through large stretches of unmapped mine fields, remnants of the conflicts between Chad and Libya until the late eighties.
- ➔ The majority of returnees have spent 1 to 5 years in Libya, are male migrants in the age bracket of 18-35 and without formal education. The Government of Chad with support from IOM is exploring options and seeking donor support for social and economic reintegration, to limit the negative impact of the cuts in remittances created by the crisis.



*Situation in Faya Transit Centre*



*Registration team working in Faya*



*Stranded migrants arriving in Faya, Chad*



## Evacuations

- ➔ The set-up of reception and departure centres has been crucial to facilitate the transit of TCNs and returnees in Chad. 77% of the Chadians arriving in Faya and Kalait have been assisted by IOM to return to their place of origin in the country.
- ➔ Due to the vast distances and difficulties with regard to ground transportation, IOM has provided domestic flights from Faya to Abeche and N'Djamena for the most vulnerable migrants who were unable to undertake the journey by truck. Between 4 April and 12 May, IOM organised fourteen charter flights from Faya to Abeche and Ndjamen, supporting the immediate transportation of 1,822 returnees.
- ➔ From the few TCNs (804) who have crossed the Southern border of Libya and arrived to Chad, 593 received domestic transportation and travel health assistance to return to their country of origin. Others have travelled by their own means, particularly TCNs arriving in Abeche and returning to Sudan. IOM has assisted 101 TCNs to obtain travel documents and organised air evacuation from N'Djamena to the country of origin.
- ➔ IOM has provided support to more than 31,000 Chadian returnees returning by air from Egypt, Tunisia and Libya (Sebha). At the peak of arrivals, 2,200 Chadian passengers arrived in N'Djamena over a 15-hour period.



*Migrants boarding for flight from Faya to N'Djamena*



*Truck taking migrants from Faya to N'Djamena*



*Transportation of returnees to their final destination*

## Humanitarian Assistance

- ➔ In order to provide humanitarian assistance at entry and transit points, IOM has set up an elaborate network of way stations and transit centres. In total, five way stations have been established at points of entry in Salal, Mao, Zouarke, Ouniangekebir and in Nouku. These way stations have been providing important primary services such as water, food, medical care and shelter.
- ➔ Through six transit centres in Faya, Kalait, Abeche and three transit centres in N'Djamena, IOM has been providing organised transportation to final destinations in Chad, food, NFIs (jerry cans, blankets, mats, hygiene kits, clothes etc.), as well as medical care and psychosocial first aid.
- ➔ At the transit centres, IOM has also been undertaking registration and profiling exercises to record the socio-economic situation of the returnees, their intentions for livelihood rebuilding in Chad, as well as information such as the number of dependents and the final destination in Chad.



*Migrants receiving NFIs in Sebha*



## Health and Psychosocial Assistance

- The IOM health and psychosocial teams provided post arrival assistance as well as psychosocial support for returning Chadians, ensuring care and referral to the local health facilities before onward transportation to their communities of origin.
- Additionally, the humanitarian response in Faya, Abeche and Mao has included an outreach component to support the local hospitals with food and medication which are providing free medical care to returnees.
- The Cholera epidemic is affecting most regions of the country and areas of extreme outbreak correspond to areas of high return. As part of the assistance provided to returnees from Libya, IOM established a Cholera Awareness Raising Campaign, distributing soap, information brochures and providing a briefing to all returnees transiting in N'Djamena.



A pregnant woman in deplorable condition was evacuated by IOM from Sebha to N'Djamena on 28 July. Upon arrival in N'Djamena the woman went into labour and was immediately transported to the hospital. She gave birth on 29 July, the day after the evacuation, to her first son. Relieved to have returned to Chad unharmed after witnessing violence and experiencing personal loss, she named her first born "Miracle".

## Niger

- Like in Chad, IOM had to set up a dual operation to respond to the situation in Niger, catering for migrants crossing the border with Libya (80,300) while assisting Nigerien returnees evacuated by air from Egypt and Tunisia (15,000).
- IOM, thanks to its established presence in Dirkou, was able to quickly assist the migrants despite the often dire and stressful conditions in this remote and low-security area.
- **Profile of Nigeriens returnees:** Young (64% of them are 18-30 years old), male (99%), employed in manual labour in Libya (39%) or in agriculture (23%). The majority lived in Tripoli (39%), the rest in Sebha (23%) and Misrata (21%). 68% of the returnees spent between 1 to 5 years in Libya. The final destination for 37% of them is Tahoua region (between Niamey and Agadez).



## Cross-border Movement

- Almost 75,600 Nigeriens have returned home by road through the Southern border with Libya. IOM's transit centre in Dirkou, established prior to the crisis to support returning migrants, has been providing a rest-stop for the migrants exposed to extremely difficult conditions while crossing the desert aboard trucks.
- During the first three months, the number of arrivals reached up to 2,500 migrants per day. As of June, the flow of migrants fleeing Libya decreased to an average of 200 arrivals per day and became more irregular, with entire days with no new arrivals. Given the volatility of the situation, IOM had to remain alert in case of new surge in arrivals.





## Evacuations

- ➔ Of the 80,300 returnees and TCNs who entered Niger through Dirkou, IOM directly assisted the most vulnerable, and those migrants with no means on their own to continue the difficult journey home.
- ➔ By the end of September, IOM had assisted nearly 10,000 Nigeriens and TCNs to reach other transit points (including Agadez and Niamey) and to return to their area of origin in Niger.
- ➔ For security reasons, military convoys are necessary to escort stranded migrants between Dirkou and Niamey. Organised every three days on average when daily arrivals in Dirkou were high, the frequency has significantly diminished in August, resulting in people having to stay longer at the transit centre before continuing their journey southward to their villages.
- ➔ For half of the 4,800 TCNs who crossed into Niger to flee the violence in Libya, IOM organ-

ised transportation assistance from Niamey to their country of origin. Two types of transportation assistance have been provided for 2,331 TCNs in transit in Niger:

1,977 by international buses from Niamey to neighbouring countries (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, Mali);

354 by international flights booked by IOM from Niamey to the country of origin (Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Gambia).

- ➔ On the arrival side at Niamey airport, the total number of Nigeriens who returned by air is 14,954. 59% of the repatriated migrants have flown from Egypt, 40% from Tunisia and the rest from Algeria, Turkey and Chad. The peak of arrival at the airport was in May when about 6,000 Nigeriens returned in one month.

## Humanitarian Assistance

- ➔ In its transit centres in Dirkou, Arlit, Agadez and Niamey, IOM has been registering stranded migrants in needs of assistance, and providing humanitarian assistance and protection, including medical assistance.
- ➔ In Dirkou, IOM has provided not only food for the stranded migrants (146,136 meals) but also hygiene kits (9,449 items), shelter accommodation (to 6,033 persons), medical assistance (to 4,354 persons), mattress and blankets (3,776 units).
- ➔ In the different transit centres IOM has been working closely with a number of partners and in particular the Nigerien Red Cross, but also WFP, CICR, UNICEF, WHO and MSF Spain to provide adequate services to the migrants.
- ➔ IOM, United Nations agencies and other partners have voiced concerns that the situation in the country could worsen, given the already vulnerable state of Niger's food security. Many families were dependent on the remittances sent from Libya. IOM has since been advocating that reintegration support, as well as community stabilization programmes, will be needed to help absorb the high number of returnees.



*Children space in Dirkou Transit Centre*



*Registration for arriving migrants in Dirkou Transit Centre*



*Migrants receiving humanitarian assistance in Dirkou*



# Italy and Malta

## Cross-border Movement

- Cross-border arrivals by boat to Italy and Malta represent 3.9% of the overall movement of people fleeing Libya (27,465 persons out of 706,000)<sup>9</sup>.
- Between April and August, with the deterioration of the security situation in Libya including violence towards migrants, IOM registered an increased number of arrivals from Libya to Lampedusa (25,935 persons by the end of September).
- In Malta, 1,530 persons landed since the beginning of the crisis.
- The main countries of origin of people leaving Libya to Italy and Malta are Somalia, Eritrea, Sudan, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Ivory

Coast, Congo, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Pakistan, Senegal, and Sudan (there are almost no Libyan nationals). Among these people are also families, minors, women with children. Migrants arrived on un-seaworthy vessels, often carrying more than 600 people, leading to a number of tragedies at sea.

<sup>9</sup> In these statistics are considered only arrivals from Libya, excluding arrivals of Tunisian migrants from the Tunisian shore. IOM monitors in Malta and Italy are also registering and supporting migrants coming from Tunisia. Almost entirely composed of Tunisian nationals seeking to reach Europe, 26,354 have reached Lampedusa so far.

## Humanitarian Assistance

- In Italy and Malta, IOM focused its activities on strengthening the reception services offered to migrants, providing information and legal counseling and detecting vulnerable cases (unaccompanied minors, victims of trafficking, asylum seekers, etc.). Most vulnerable cases received specific individual counseling and assistance in cooperation with the local authorities.
- Within the first few days of the crisis, IOM reopened its offices in Lampedusa to provide counseling to newly arrived migrants and to help Italian authorities to manage mixed migratory flows coming from Tunisia and Libya. The same activities have been carried out by IOM in Apulia and Sicily Reception Centres where migrants were transferred after their arrival to Lampedusa.
- In Malta, IOM, in coordination with other agencies, including UNHCR and the Red Cross, created a committee to tailor responses to the needs of migrants. IOM has continued to assist in the resettlement of persons accepted under UNHCR's refugee resettlement programme to a third country. This includes processing legal documents, conducting medical screenings, counseling, cultural orientation, language and

skills training, pre-departure orientation, and movement assistance. In relation to the MENA crisis, two refugees have been relocated to Belgium for family reunification.



*Counseling to newly arrived migrants*



*IOM staff collecting information to assist migrants*



# Financial Statement

## Interim Report

for the period from February 2011 to 30 September 2011

### Contributions

in US Dollar

Government of Australia	March/April/June 2011	(AUD 6,500,000)	6,766,178
Government of Austria	May 2011	(EUR 250,000)	357,654
Government of Bangladesh	June 2011		12,064,301
Government of Canada	April 2011		3,730,565
Government of Chad	April 2011	(XAF 15,000,000)	32,668
Government of Chile	March 2011		15,000
Government of the Czech Republic	April 2011	(CZK 2,500,000)	143,513
Government of Finland	June 2011	(EUR 500,000)	712,251
Government of Germany	May/August	(EUR 1,500,297)	2,145,326
Government of Greece	May 2011	(EUR 50,000)	71,531
Government of Ireland	April/July 2011	(EUR 1,000,000)	1,419,533
Government of Italy	June 2011	(EUR 500,000)	712,251
Government of Japan	March 2011		1,000,000
Government of the Republic of Korea	April 2011		300,000
Government of The Netherlands	June 2011		1,250,000
Government of Norway	March/May 2011	(NOK 22,000,000)	3,953,598
Government of Sweden	July 2011	(SEK 900,000)	139,276
Government of Switzerland	March/April 2011	(CHF 1,200,000 )	1,321,625
Government of The United Kingdom	March/April/May 2011	(GBP 6,000,000 )	9,679,930
Government of the United States of America	Feb 2011		27,500,000
Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)	March/May 2011		4,375,947
EC Directorate General for Humanitarian and Civil Protection (ECHO)	March/April/June/August	(EUR 19,296,000)	27,120,263
The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Charity and Humanitarian Foundation	March 2011		42,029
Vox Relief Group Dubai and AOG USA	March 2011		10,000
Zakat Foundation	March 2011		50,000

**Total Resources in US Dollar: 104,913,439**

### Expenditure

Staff & Office costs	9,516,685
Operational costs: Transportation ( Air/Sea) <sup>1</sup>	66,486,136
Operational costs: Other operational cost (such as NFIs, transit assistance, health assistance)	9,158,066

**Total Expenditure in US Dollar: 85,160,886**

**Balance of resources carried forward at 30 September 2011<sup>2</sup>: 19,752,553**

Committed to ongoing operations 10,652,553

**Uncommitted resources at 30 September 2011 9,100,000**

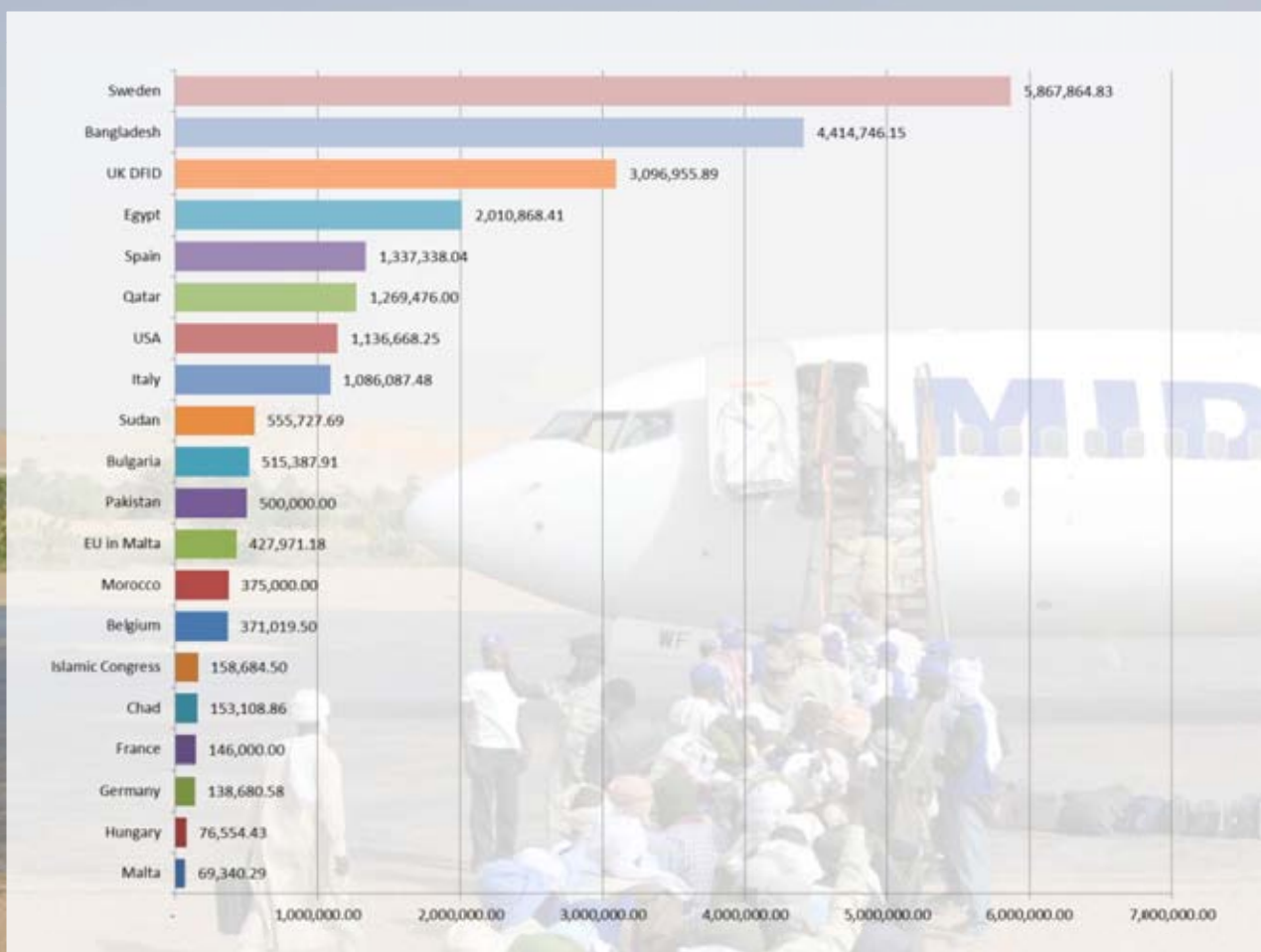
<sup>1</sup> Includes USD 7,070,249 of expenditures incurred prior to 30 September, but not yet recorded in the accounting system.

<sup>2</sup> Includes USD 10,652,553 allocated to ongoing operations, leaving an uncommitted balance of USD 9,100,000 at 30 September 2011.





# In-Kind Contributions



## Conclusion

- ➔ More than seven months after the beginning of the crisis, IOM continues to provide a large number of services to migrants stranded at the Libyan borders, as well as inside Libya (in Sebha, Misrata, Benghazi and Tripoli) to respond to residual humanitarian needs.
- ➔ The strategy implemented by IOM since the beginning of the crisis has aimed successfully at avoiding humanitarian crises at border areas through the massive evacuation of TCNs by air (Tunisia and Egypt) to their country of origin and by road (Chad and Niger) and to reach out to stranded migrants in needs of assistance and protection in Libya.
- ➔ In this new phase, IOM is adjusting its strategy to provide the most adequate services to migrants in countries of return including strengthening capacities and community stabilization programmes.
- ➔ A long-term vision is now essential to respond to the reconstruction needs of Libya, especially in terms of foreign labour while respecting the rights of migrants, and to consolidate the capacity of neighbouring countries to face major migration movements through better border management.



*IOM Staff on the route to Sebha*

Humanitarian Emergency Response to the Libyan Crisis

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