



# LIBYA: HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS AND IDPS

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • 30 January 2016



Libyan organisation Moltakana helps a migrant in the Abu Sleem Detention Centre in Libya © IOM Tripoli 2016

## Highlights

■ 302 stranded migrants repatriated, majority directly out of Tripoli, or via Istanbul; 154 migrants to Senegal, 133 people to Burkina Faso and others to Nigeria, Ethiopia and Togo via Istanbul.

■ 400 vulnerable migrants at Abu Sleem Detention Centre receive direct assistance through Non Food Items (NFIs) and hygiene kits.

■ First round of the Displacement Tracking Matrix Libya report released. The report identified 268,943 IDP individuals located in 88 areas.

■ Seven Libyan NGOs attended IOM monthly coordination and capacity building meeting in Safax – Tunisia

## Situation Overview

Since the release of the Libya Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) in November 2015, IOM has continued to implement programs providing immediate and life-saving direct assistance to migrants, underpinned by a comprehensive plan to address the proliferation of smuggling and trafficking in persons, and the plight of migrants, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and local host communities. Since 1 January 2016, 18,882 migrants and refugees have arrived to Europe by sea, with 56 migrants reported as either missing or drowned. Over just four days in December, normally a month when fewer arrivals are happening, IOM registered more than 4,900 migrants. In the first days of December, the Italian coastguard rescued almost 2,000 migrants from 11 boats attempting to reach Italy. Most came from sub-Saharan Africa and set sail from Libya in rickety boats provided by smugglers. Globally, IOM is encouraging governments to take greater responsibility for collecting data on migrant deaths to ensure transparency and accountability. IOM Libya provided urgently needed humanitarian assistance to migrants rescued at sea, as well as those in migrant detention centres.

During January, IOM Libya responded with direct assistance, Humanitarian Repatriation and capacity building to local implementing partners in Libya help reach those in need. The Mission intensified efforts to help stranded migrants leave Libya and be reunited with their families through humanitarian repatriation. Training on the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) system included protection and risk indicators and identification of vulnerable cases and referral mechanisms. IOM Libya is working with CSOs, international organizations and local authorities to implement the DTM system in Libya with the first DTM Report released this month. The information will allow partners to better plan co-ordinated responses while providing essential support to migrants in several key locations.



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## NFI and Shelter

Through a local partner partners, IOM Libya distributed 400 Non Food Items (NFIs) and Hygiene Kits to newly arrived migrants in Abu Sleem Detention Centre. These activities help to meet minimum and dignified shelter and NFI needs for vulnerable migrants in need of assistance. Activities and kit compilation takes into account the different needs of each gender and any vulnerabilities.



Migrants in Abu Sleem keep warm with blankets provided through IOM © IOM partner—Multkana, Tripoli 2016



## Humanitarian Repatriation

IOM provided humanitarian repatriation assistance through facilitating the safe and dignified return of 302 migrants stranded in Libya, of which 289 of them were supported over four days in January. This included 154 migrants assisted to return to Senegal on 6 Jan, who had been detained in Salah Al Dein migrant's Detention Centre. Before departure, IOM visited the Centre and all migrants received food, hygiene kits, shoes and clothing. The next day, IOM facilitated the repatriation of 133 people to Burkina Faso. Migrants had overnighted in Burkina Faso premises, with IOM in attendance providing food and Hygiene kits and transportation to the airport.

Funds for the charters were provided by the State Secretariat of Migration, Switzerland as part of the Humanitarian Repatriation for Stranded Migrants in Libya project supported by the Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development. These charters were part of series of humanitarian repatriation flights IOM is planning in the coming months to Senegal, Nigeria, Mali, and Burkina Faso, with support from the European Union, the Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development and the Italian Ministry of Interior.

Activities are helped by extensive partnerships across Libya and countries of return. The movements were organised in

coordination with the relevant Embassies in Tunis, Tunis and in Tripoli, Libya. The good working relationships IOM has established with immigration officials helped with coordination across the borders. IOM Libya also coordinated with IOM Country Missions in countries of return.

Often migrants are without any type of resources, and come from places far from airports. For those who returned to Senegal and Burkina Faso, IOM Libya provided onward transportation grants to assist them arrive in their final destinations. The most vulnerable identified cases were allocated reintegration grants to facilitate socioeconomic reinsertion once they arrive home. Migrants have since reunited with loved ones.

During January, IOM Libya finalised interviews; medical checks and exit visas for a group of 180 Malian migrants stranded in Libya. Their charter flight is scheduled to depart on 2 Feb 2016.

Many people had spent months in immigration detention centres. Almost all had entered Libya irregularly via Algeria and Niger, paying smugglers between USD 800 - 1,300 for a trip that lasted anywhere from two to eight weeks. Most had arrived for work opportunities or onward migration to Europe. Migrants spoke to IOM about facing tough conditions to survive, due to the lack of paying jobs, insecurity and crime. Harassment and the risk of being robbed or taken hostage for ransom had been a source of anxiety for many.

Abdullah from Burkina Faso explained how "I was scheduled to return with IOM support on 17 December but a gang has stolen my phone, my money and my travel document and I missed the previous trip, but thank God and thanks to IOM who rescheduled me for 6 January 2016."

More information can be found at <https://www.iom.int/news/iom-assists-sub-saharan-migrants-stranded-libya-their-return>



Migrants on the airplane returning home to Burkina Faso © IOM Tripoli 2016



## Capacity Building

With the support of ECHO and DFID, IOM is building the capacity of partners to utilise the DTM system. In late January, a two-day Coordination and Capacity Building meeting in Sfax, Tunisia was held for 11 participants from seven Libyan NGOs. In attendance to offer regional expertise were IOM DTM staff from Tunisia, Iraq, Jordan and South Sudan. The capacity building strengthened knowledge on mobility tracking, leaving them better equipped to collect accurate data utilising a standardised methodology refined in the course of several emergency settings across the region. Participants learnt about standard data collection tools to harmonise approaches.

One session of meetings was dedicated to vulnerability criteria and assessment (delivered by the Danish Refugee Council [DRC]), with human trafficking and awareness campaign information delivered by IOM staff. The DTM integrates protection-risk indicators and specific mechanisms, including sex and gender disaggregated data. Capacity building sessions built partners knowledge of these indicators, particularly as they relate to responses and referral mechanisms for vulnerable migrants such as victims of trafficking. Participants will transfer knowledge to their organizations to increase the pool of enumerators.



Libyan NGOs participate in IOM monthly coordination and capacity building meeting © IOM Tripoli 2016



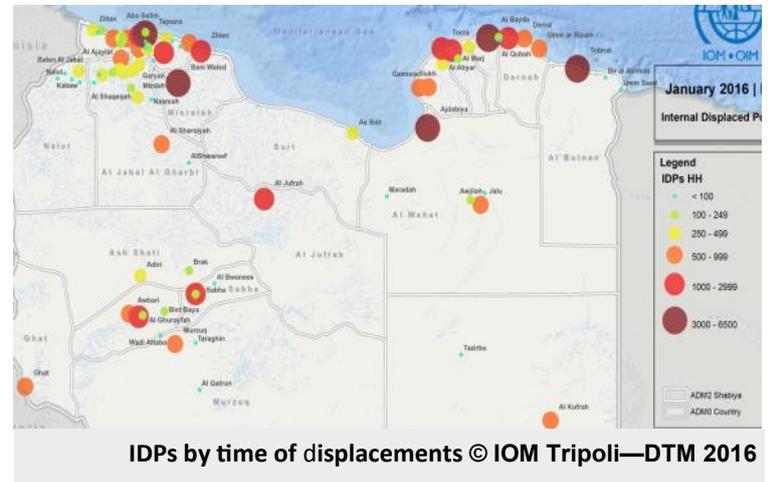
## Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

The 2016 HRP acknowledges that the scale of the crisis and humanitarian needs demands a more coherent picture of displacement and migration patterns in Libya and related to the Mediterranean. IOM established its Libya DTM in October 2015, designed to track and monitor population displacement. Sector-level monitoring tools in this context are vital, with results that can be utilised by the range of stakeholders. In January, IOM released the first

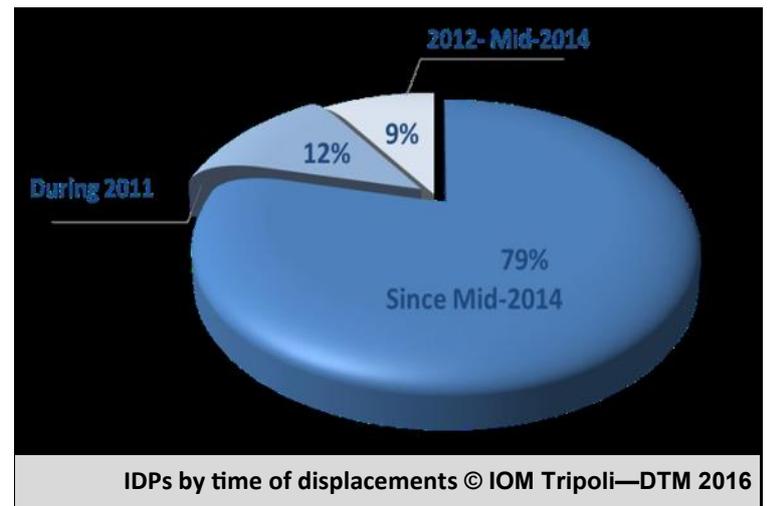
round of the DTM Report. DTM focused on identifying and locating areas hosting IDPs, returnees and migrants, and providing estimated population figures.

The main findings were:

- 268,943 IDP individuals identified and located (53,740 households) in 88 areas. Among the identified IDPs 79% were displaced in the past 18 months as a result of the Libyan civil war; 13% have been displaced since 2011, and 9% were displaced between 2012 and mid-2014.



- Majority of displacements originated from Benghazi, Tawergha, Derna, Sirte, Awbari, and Kikla areas.
- 130,637 returnees were identified in 19 areas; 71% of the identified returnee population arrived from other areas within Libya.
- 28 migrant transit points and 50 migrant-hosting areas identified.



IOM Libya operations are supported by :

