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"IOM came to the detention centre and asked if we wanted to return home, they promised to take us back and I am very happy that they kept their promise"
 - Joel, who returned home to Nigeria on 17 August

12 AUGUST – 25 AUGUST 2017



MARITIME UPDATE

- On 16 August, 107 migrants (101 men and 6 women) were rescued off Al Khums. Five days later, on 21 August, another 102 migrants were rescued off Sabratha (including seven women and 95 men).
- So far in 2017, 13,148 migrants have been rescued in Libyan waters.

MIGRATION NEWS

[Libya: Six years on path of return for displaced Tawarghas remains blocked](#) (Amnesty International)

[Exclusive: Armed group stopping migrant boats leaving Libya](#) (Reuters)

[REFUGEES IN EUROPE: LIBYA STRUGGLING TO CONTAIN GROWING NUMBERS OF MIGRANTS, PM SAYS](#) (Newsweek)

[Flow of Migrants to Italy Slows, but Nobody Knows Why](#) (The New York Times)

[UK Foreign Minister visits Tripoli, pledges £9m to help Libya fight human trafficking](#) (Libya Express)

[Armed Sabrathans crack down on migrant smuggling says mayor](#) (Libya Herald)

IOM continues to enhance support for migrants rescued at sea in Libya

For the past two weeks, computer literacy lessons have been conducted for the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG), the Directorate for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM) as well as the Coast Security in Azzawya and Zuwara with the aim to improve the documentation of rescue at sea operations including the registration of migrants at disembarkation points. The lessons were provided to 30 participants, all involved in the rescue at sea operations.

"By better documentation of migrants at the disembarkation points, IOM is hoping to put a registration system in place that helps to regulate the humanitarian services provided to rescued migrants," explained IOM Libya's Maysa Khalil.

IT-devices and equipment including computers have also been provided to the Libyan Coast Guard officers at disembarkation points.



In addition, on 21 August, lifesaving equipment including life buoys, life vests, emergency blankets, torches (flashlights) and protection supplies (gloves, masks, dead body bags, and disposable suits for retrieving dead bodies) were delivered to the

disembarkation points of Abu Setta and Alhamidiya. One day later, on 22 August, lifesaving as well as protection sets were handed over to the Libyan Coast Guard in Janzour disembarkation point, Mesfat point in Azzawaya and in Zuwara.

643 stranded migrants return home



Throughout the last two weeks, 643 stranded migrants have been able to return home to their countries of origin including Senegal, Mali, Nigeria and Liberia through chartered and commercial flights. Among the returnees were also 17 medical cases and 18 unaccompanied minors.



Once home, all migrants will benefit from further reintegration support, the aim of which, is to provide them with an opportunity to start fresh by, for example, opening a small

business or pursuing their education.

So far in 2017, IOM, has provided 6,827 stranded migrants with a voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance. IOM is aiming to reach 10,000-15,000 stranded migrants with assistance home in 2017.

Libyan authorities meet with UN agencies to discuss migrant health



On 15 August, IOM organized a round table on migrants health in Libya. There are estimated to be more than 1.3 million people without access to healthcare throughout Libya. IOM is working closely with the Libyan authorities and partners in promoting medical assistance and health interventions including in detention centres, at main migrant

Migration Flows Europe



For the latest Mediterranean Update data on arrivals and fatalities please visit: <http://migration.iom.int/europe>
 #MigrationEurope

Missing Migrants Project



A global database tracking data on deceased and missing migrants along migratory routes. Visit MissingMigrants.iom.int

#MissingMigrants

STORIES OF MIGRANTS



Growing up in a poor family thirteen-year-old Jonathan* started to fantasize about bringing his family to Italy, he dreamt of becoming a professional football player, earn a lot of money and bring his family to Europe. "I would like to play for Juventus," he told IOM.

When an opportunity to leave for Europe appeared, Jonathan took it, and began his around 7,000 kilometer journey, from Senegal, through Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger and lastly, from southern to northern Libya.

Jonathan payed around 900 US dollar and was captured three times along the migratory route.

In the detention centre, Jonathan tells IOM how he endured torture and ill treatment along the perilous road through the African continent. In southern Libya, Jonathan was kidnapped by smugglers and was only released after his relative and friend managed to pay the criminal group 550 US dollar.

The thirteen-year-old then travelled to Tripoli, where he worked as a cleaner in order to receive a seat in one of the inflatable rubber dinghies that these days depart on a regular basis from the Libyan coast packed with migrants wishing to reach Europe for a better life. But once again Jonathan was captured.

"My relatives had to send 300 USD and they released me," he explained to IOM.

After two failed attempts on one of the world's most dangerous routes across the Mediterranean Sea, Jonathan's journey ended, like for so many others, in one of the Libyan capital's detention centres.

In thirteen of the current 29 government-led detention centres there are around 140 unaccompanied minors, according to IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix's detention centre mapping tool.

"Detention centre is not a place for children," emphasized IOM Libya's Protection Officer. "We work closely with the Libyan authorities in trying to find alternative solutions to detention and efficiently assist those wishing to return home." Whilst trying to minimize the time spent in detention, IOM also supports the children with recreational activities and psychosocial first aid.

Jonathan is one of the around 120 minors that IOM Libya has assisted to return home. Today he is reunited with his relatives at home, where he continues to dream about becoming a

disembarkation points for Europe and as part of voluntary humanitarian returns.

The round table discussion advanced the development of Libyan authorities' policies on national and migrant health. The event was attended by the Deputy Ministry of Health and the General Director of the National Centres for Disease Control (NCDC) in Libya among other officials from the health, immigration, security and social affairs sectors. Presentations and discussions at the round table were led by IOM, the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund and Ministry of Public Health representative from Thailand.

"IOM will continue technical support and collaboration with the Government of Libya in advancing the migration health agenda, in partnership with WHO to address the health needs of internally displaced persons, returnees, and migrants and host community," said Othman Belbeisi, IOM Libya Chief of Mission. Belbeisi also referred to IOM Director General William Lacy Swing's recent visit to Tripoli earlier in August, where he had emphasized IOM's response in Libya as of paramount importance to the Organization.

In light of the priorities established during the 70th World Health Assembly and the recommendations put forth in the 2017 Colombo Statement to promote the health of migrants globally, as well as ongoing advocacy to ensure that migration health is adequately addressed in the global compacts for refugees and migration, such multisectoral dialogue is key to developing and mainstreaming migration into national health policies in Libya.

"This round table and capacity building workshop further reiterate IOM's ongoing work in providing medical and humanitarian assistance to migrants and mainstreaming migration health across IOM's overall engagement in Libya," said Dr. Poonam Dhavan, IOM Migration Health Programme Coordinator based in the Organization's headquarters, following her presentation on migration health programmes in Libya.

477 migrants inside and outside detention centres receive non-food aid



A total of 477 migrants have during the past two weeks received non-food assistance including hygiene kits. On 20 August, 343 migrants outside detention in Tripoli received non-food items and another group of 134 migrants at Shuhada Nasr detention centre received similar assistance, three days later, on 24 August.

Protection team expands with 8 protection assistants and case workers

In order to respond to the high demand for protection assistance, IOM is expanding its protection team with an additional eight case workers and assistants. The new staff will be based in Tripoli, Benghazi and Sabha and primarily work on identifying vulnerable migrants in detention and outside detention in need of assistance.

A one week training has been provided to the new staff members, which finished with a one-day joint training on identification of victims of trafficking together with the Danish Refugee Council (DRC).

Psychosocial support trainings for Sabha and Qatroun health workers



Forty health staff from Sabha participated, 12 August, in a psychosocial training, the aim of which is to provide support with identifying the most vulnerable patients.

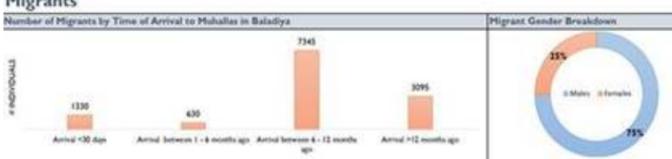
"Throughout the training, we have learned how to best communicate and treat patients who suffer from psychosocial and mental challenge. The trainers were very experienced and I wish all the medical centres in the South can engage in similar activities in the future," said Mohamed Al Senni, anesthesia technician at Sabha Medical Center and intern at Sabha Nursing College. Another forty members from different Qatroun medical centres will also receive the same training.

Baladiya profile generator provides data on IDPs, returnees and migrants

Designed in response to feedback provided in DTM's [feedback survey](#), the *Baladiya Profile Generator* has been created to deliver action-orientated and ready-to-hand snapshot profiles of all of Libya's 100 Baladiya. Information generated includes IDP, returnee and migrant population figures, drivers and timelines of internal displacement and return in baladiya, demographics and migrant nationalities.

DTM		Benghazi		UKaid	
Round	Date of Assessment	Type of Assessment	Export to PDF		
11	26/05/2017	Both			
Population Groups Present (# Individuals)		Relations with Host Community	Impact on Labour Market	Impact on Public Services	
IDPs	42,300	Excellent (No problems or tensions)	No impact	No impact	
Returnees	146,500	Excellent	No impact	No impact	
Migrants	12,400	Fair (repeated incidents of tension)	Negative Impact (Jobs are more scarce)	No impact	
Education		Nutrition			
Are majority of students attending school?	Yes	Main source of food for IDPs in Baladiya			
Are safety nets available?	Yes	Buy from the market			
Proportion of operational public services	Yes	Main source related to food			
		Price (per expense)			
		Cost of subsistence present in Baladiya			

According to the Round 11 dataset there are currently 12,400 migrants, 42,300 IDPs and 146,500 returnees in Benghazi. Twenty-five percent of the public hospitals are operational and the primary non-food aid needs identified are mattresses, bedding and heaters. Among the migrants, 75 percent are men and 25 percent are women, the majority from Egypt and Sudan.



For the full [dataset](#).

IOM LIBYA OPERATIONS ARE SUPPORTED BY



professional football player.

*Jonathan is not the migrant's real name

SECOND CHANCES: "IT WILL TAKE TWO HOURS."



Before leaving Libyan soil on a flimsy rubber dinghy, Moses was informed that in two hours they would be rescued and taken to Europe. "But it didn't," he added.

Moses, a father of seven, from an African country, stands in the courtyard of a detention centre in Tripoli, where he has ended up after more than a year in Libya. He left his wife with their four other children to earn money for the family and worked in southern Libya.

But staying with the three boys was no longer an option, so when his employer asked if he had some money and wanted to go to Subratah and Europe, Moses saw no other option but to go ahead "It was never my intention to go to Europe, not when I arrived to Libya," he explains, but as his journey became more and more dangerous, Italy seemed to move closer and closer. Two hours away close.

In the western coastal city of Subratah, Moses paid and ended up on a rubber boat with about 150 other passengers from different African countries. Moses demonstrates how he sat with his children around him, his arms around their shoulders. "Packed like sardines," he says.

But two hours turned into three, turned into four and five and six hours. As the minutes ticked away the boat drifted, without a motor or a compass the passengers had little control over their fates. The "pusher men" take a speed boat or a scooter and leave the migrant boat at sea. Moses started to panic. He estimates that they stayed at sea for around six hours until they saw a boat with a Libyan flag. I ask Moses, were you disappointed it was the Libyans and not the Italians? No, he says, at that time he was just glad they were still alive.

We work for a better future for our children, that is what it is all about, says Moses who has now chosen to return home through IOM's return assistance programme. As we wait for the buses to begin to transfer those migrants that have signed up for the assistance through Mitiga airport, Moses speaks of the boys. With a little glimmer of hope lightening in his eyes he tells me about the characters of his three sons. He puts his hand on the youngest head, this one is a clever one, he asks a lot of questions, Moses says with a smile, he will become a lawyer, he concludes. The other two would like to become a soldier and police, they are strong, Moses says and bursts out in laughter.

At the airport the five-year-old, Moses' youngest son stands by the window and watches the plane that is about to bring him back to his mother and siblings.

But Moses leaves Libya with a bittersweet feeling, he is well aware that life back home will not be easy, they left for a reason and now they are in debt. But the most important is family, how you bring up your children will shape them, he says, shapes their future.

*For safety reasons, Moses is not the migrant's real name

PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

[Voluntary Humanitarian Return and Reintegration Support](#)



[Libya IDP & Returnee Report](#)



[Libya Migrant Report](#)



[Maritime Update](#)



LATEST PRESS RELEASES

- [Libyan Authorities Meet with UN Agencies to Discuss Migrant Health](#)
- [Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 120,975 in 2017](#)

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