



IOM • OIM

LIBYA: HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS AND IDPS

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • JUNE 2016



Highlights

Migrants departing Tripoli in an IOM chartered plane back home to Nigeria. Photo: © IOM 2016

■ 162 Nigerian migrants, including 28 women and 3 children, were repatriated to Nigeria. Of the group, 146 had spent months in detention centres in Abu Saleem, Qarapoly and Az Zawiyah.

■ On 10 June, The Netherlands and IOM Libya signed an agreement for an 18-month project aimed at enhancing the Libyan Coast Guard's capacity to save lives at sea and supporting humanitarian repatriation of vulnerable migrants from Libya.

■ Germany and IOM Libya signed an agreement for the EUR 1 million project "Direct assistance to Internally displaced persons, migrants rescued at sea, detained migrants and vulnerable migrants in urban settings," which will run through 31 December 2016.

■ The Libyan Coast Guard has rescued a total of 2,531 migrants outside the Libyan coast during June. IOM Libya is working to meet the needs of these migrants.

Situation Overview

As the Libyan crisis continues, June continues to see unrest in many parts of Libya as a result of the strained living conditions due to, among other reasons, the on-going liquidity and electricity crisis. The economic situation is deteriorating with the Libyan Dinar's value decreasing, as Libyans continue to line up outside banks in desperate attempts to withdraw money. The influx of both Britain and Russia printed cash is on going, which has been a reason of concern regarding the country's unity.



In addition, clashes and military operations against the Islamic State continues around the group's strong hold Sirte, causing large number of displaced people. The displacement is stretching the already strained capacity of local communities such as Tarhuna, Al Jufrah and Bani Waled. The country's humanitarian crisis is also affecting the migrants and IDPs with for example the hospital in Bani Waled warning that it may be forced to shut down due to shortage of medical supplies. A similar situation has been witnessed in Benghazi, where a grenade attack on 23 June severely damaged the reception area of Jalaa Hospital and only one day later a car exploded outside the same hospital.

The warm weather has contributed to the continuing high number of maritime incidents off the Libyan coast. In June, the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG) rescued 2,531 migrants off the Libyan shore, many of which were transferred to Abu Saleem and Abu Eissa detention centres. The detention centres, particularly Az Zawiyah's Abu Eissa and Shuhada' Al Nasr remain severely over capacity and have requested health care support, for which IOM Libya has provided assistance. As of 28 June, the LCG had rescued 8,648 migrants and registered 160 fatalities for 2016. June has not only seen a number of rescue operations by the Libyan Coast Guard, but also the Italian coastguard and navy, which rescued 3,300 migrants off the coast of Libya in a series of operations in the end of the month, the migrants were taken to southern Italian ports.

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NFI and Protection

On 2 June, NFIs (Non-Food Items) and HKs (Hygiene Kits) were distributed to **361 IDP families from Sirte** (reaching an estimated 1,805 beneficiaries), currently residing in Tarhuna. On 6 June, NFIs and HKs were distributed to 250 IDP families (an estimated 1,250 beneficiaries) at four locations in Al Jufrah, southern Libya.

Based on the requests received from humanitarian organizations and the local council in different cities affected by Sirte IDPs, IOM, through the Libyan Red Crescent, distributed NFIs and HKs to 30 families (estimated 150 beneficiaries) in Tripoli (Suq Al-Ahad Area). In addition, NFIs and HKs were also distributed, through the Ayadi Al-Khair organization, to 31 IDP families (estimated 155 beneficiaries) that were displaced to the villages of Abu Ghrain, Zamzam and Abu Najim, around Sirte.

On 24-25 June, a distribution was conducted at Az Zawiyah's detention centre Abu Essa, 450 migrants received NFIs and HKs and in addition 107 female migrants in Sourman received NFIs and HKs. On 27 June, IOM partner NGO STACO distributed NFIs and HKs to 150 migrants in Al-Khums.

Furthermore, IOM Libya has received a request to provide **healthcare services** to migrants rescued at sea. During June, more than 150 medical screening sessions were conducted for the migrants in detention centres and at disembarkation points. IOM Libya is continuing to provide healthcare services at 4 detention centres (Az Zawiyah's Abu Essa, Shuhadaa Al-Nasir, Al-Khums and Shahat).



IOM distribution Sirte IDPs in Tripoli on 14 June. Photo: © IOM 2016



Humanitarian Repatriation

On 16 June, IOM Libya assisted **162 stranded Nigerians migrants**, including 28 women and 3 children, to return home to Nigeria from Libya. Of the group, 146 had spent months in immigration detention centres, namely Abu Saleem, Qarapoly and Az Zawiyah detentions centres. The repatriation, in close co-operation with the Libyan authorities, the Nigerian Embassy in Tripoli and the IOM mission in Nigeria, was on board a charter flight that departed Tripoli's Mitiga Airport, landing in Abuja the same afternoon. The repatriated migrants were received by IOM Nigeria at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport and were provided with cash grants upon arrival. Of the group, 20 will be provided with some reintegration support.

In order to assure a dignified departure, IOM distributed hygiene kits, clothes and shoes to all repatriated migrants. A mobile patrol from the Libyan Directorate of Combating Illegal Migration (DCIM) escorted the buses to Mitiga airport.

The circumstances of this group were similar to migrants previously repatriated by IOM from Libya (1,174 migrants have been repatriated since 2014). Almost all the migrants traveling on this charter were detained after they had been intercepted at sea, while attempting to reach Europe.

Omar, a 19-year-old, tearfully told IOM of his ordeal.

"I made it to Libya six months ago, and I settled in Garaboli city, 60 km east of Tripoli, with the intention of travelling to Italy, where I was arrested by a militia member together with other migrants. He threatened to send us to prison if we refused to work for him. We worked at his farm, for no money at all. When we tried to escape he asked us to pay 500 dinars (USD 360) for our release. Then he put us in a room and shot at us with his gun. I was shot in the leg. He then threw gasoline on us and set us on fire. I was severely burned. I managed to escape from the farm and I was eventually taken to the hospital by police who found me lying on the side of the road."

Omar returned home to Nigeria through the chartered flight on 16 June.

More information can be found at: <http://www.iom.int/news/iom-facilitates-voluntary-repatriation-nigerian-migrants-held-libyan-prisons>



Capacity Building

On 27 – 28 June, IOM held its latest monthly **coordination meeting** with several of its Libyan implementing partners. The meeting was attended by 9 NGOs from different parts of the country representing the South, the East and the West, to discuss activities and achievements, as well as challenges.



IOM coordination meeting with Libyan implementing partners. Photo: © IOM 2016

At this meeting, participants developed guidelines for the provision of humanitarian assistance and discussed an action plan to provide direct assistance to migrants and IDPs. On the second day, partners discussed data collection activities, reviewing the results of DTM Round 4. This meeting is part of a series of monthly coordination meetings that aim to build the capacity of local partners to enable them to better support the needs of the most vulnerable migrant and displaced populations in Libya.



Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

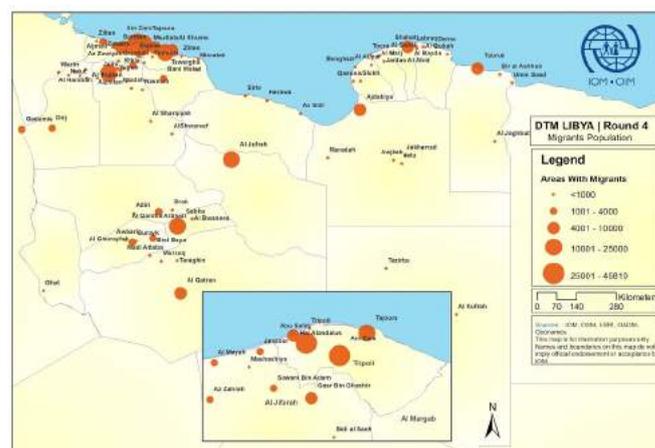
On 9 June, DTM Libya released its **DTM Round 4 Initial Findings Report** and **Interactive Dashboard**, highlighting key findings from its latest round of data collection, and followed up on June 17th with the release of the full **Mobility Tracking Report**, offering a more comprehensive analysis and overview of Libya's displacement and mobility dynamics.

During Round 4, **425,250 IDPs, 258,025 returnees and 264,014 migrants currently in Libya** were identified and located. Round 4

of data collection covered 100 out of 104 areas (baladiyas) in Libya, and expanded the scope of coverage from 452 to 516 locations (muhallas). The DTM reports present the latest baseline of Libya's Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), returnees and migrants by geographic area, movement patterns and shelter types. The baseline established by DTM is being adopted by OCHA as the Common Operational Dataset (COD) whereby all assessments will be carried out based on IOM's definition of Libya's operational geographic boundaries. The report, interactive dashboard, dataset and maps can be found at <http://www.globaldtm.info/libya/>

New data from DTM conclude that the key change in displacement trends for May has been the increase in the number of **displaced persons from Sirte** (due to clashes and military operations against the Islamic State) to Bani Waled, Tarhuna and Al Jufrah. The report also reported an increase in returns of displaced populations back to several areas of Libya, most notably to Al Mayah, Az Zahrah and Benghazi.

The pilot phase of DTM's **flow monitoring** module has recently concluded. As part of data collection activities, monitors conducted surveys with 100 migrants in Tripoli. The full rollout of the module is planned for mid-July and will deploy staff across 19 points in 13 areas in the country (Garaboli, Tripoli, Ghat, Al Qatrun, Sabha, Bani Waled, Dirj, Tobruk, Zuwara, Al Jaghubub, Umm Saad, Sabratabh and Zliten).



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