



IOM • OIM

LIBYA: HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS AND IDPS

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT • JULY 2016



Pre-departure preparations for migrants departing Tripoli in an IOM chartered plane back home to Guinea. Photo: © IOM 2016

■ On 14 July, IOM Libya repatriated 173 stranded Guinean migrants home to Conakry .

■ The Libyan Coast Guard (LCG) has rescued 967 migrants during July. IOM Libya is working to meet the needs for immediate humanitarian assistance of these migrants.

■ IOM's series [Unsung Heroes](#) featured the Libyan evacuation 2011 with IOM Libya chief Of Mission Othman Belbeisi.

■ IOM Libya's Facebook page has been launched for regular updates regarding IOM activities.

Situation Overview

As the Libyan crisis lingers on, July continues to see unrest in many parts of the country, particularly in Tripoli in the last two weeks of the months, during which demonstrations have erupted against the strained living conditions due to, among other reasons, the on-going liquidity crisis as well as the power and water cuts. Adding to the strained situation is the deteriorating economy with the Libyan Dinar's value decreasing, which



Also in Tripoli, open sources have lately referred to an increase in the number of kidnapping incidents and the Presidency Council has also increased the security level in greater Tripoli area. The armed conflict threat continues to be focused around the cities of Benghazi and Ajdabiya in the Eastern region. In the West, the military operations against the Islamic State in Sirte continues, slowly shrinking the IS group controlled sections inside the city's urban areas. Consequently, the large number of displaced people is stretching the already strained capacity of local communities in for example Tarhuna, Al Jufrah and Bani Waled.

The month of July has seen a decrease in maritime incidents since the high numbers recorded in May. The LCG rescued 967 migrants off the Libyan shore in July, of which many were taken to detention centers, which, are still, under dire stress and are heavily overpopulated. As of 29 July, the LCG had rescued 10,246 migrants in 2016. In addition, since 22 July, the number of bodies washed ashore in Sabratah has as of 28 July increased to 100 and are believed to come from two migrant boats believed to have sunk last week (as reported by Sabratah municipality).



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NFI and Protection

On 5 July, IOM Libya assisted 450 migrants in Abu Salim detention centre through the distribution of Non food items (NFI) and Hygiene Kits. The delivery benefited 260 migrants who had been rescued at sea in Tajoura port in Tripoli, in addition to 190 migrants who had initially been in the centre.

On 13 July, 175 Hygiene Kits were distributed to migrants at Abu Salim detention centre as part of the preparation for their repatriation. On 15 and 16 July, IOM Libya provided 150 migrants at Abu Essa and 267 migrants at Misrata detention centres with NFI and Hygiene Kits through the assistance of local partners.

On 21 July, following a rescue at sea operation conducted by the LCG outside Tajoura, IOM Libya distributed Hygiene Kits to the 137 rescued migrants (108 male, 27 female and 2 children). Local partners provided healthcare and medical screenings.

Among the rescued migrants there was one pregnant woman with two children. The woman expressed deep gratitude to the LCG for saving her one-year-old baby who had fallen off the boat. The boy was close to drowning when the men on board dived into the sea and saved the boy's life. One of the other rescued migrants had suffered from a gunshot wound for four days and received medical treatment upon arrival to the shore.



IOM distribution at Abu Saleem detention centre on 5 July. Photo: © IOM 2016

IOM also arranged for medical team visits to 3 detention centres, with 35 migrants in total having been screened and received treatment. During the medical team visits, 21 migrants at Az Zawiyah were screened and received medication. The migrants were from: Nigeria (7), Senegal (6), Gambia (5), Ghana (2) and Côte d'Ivoire (1). At Al-Khums detention centre, 13 migrants from: Somalia (8), Mali (2), Niger (2) and Nigeria (1) were treated. Finally at Sabratab detention centre, one Nigerian migrant was screened.



Humanitarian Repatriation

On 14 July, IOM organized a voluntary repatriation charter flight from Libya to Guinea for 173 stranded Guinean migrants. The operation, in close cooperation with Guinea's Embassy in Libya and the Libyan Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration (DCIM), was the latest in a series of voluntary return flights for migrants from Libya to West Africa. It was funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Migration and the European Union.

The migrants, many of whom had spent months in the Abu Salim detention centre near Tripoli, flew back to Conakry from Tripoli's Mitiga International Airport. In an effort to facilitate a dignified humanitarian repatriation, IOM distributed clean clothes, shoes and Hygiene Kits to the migrants. Several migrants told IOM that they had endured harsh conditions in the centre, with little food and water.



Pre-departure preparations for the repatriation on 13 July at Abu Saleem detention centre. Photo: © IOM 2016

Frank, 28, who has scoliosis (severe curvature of the spine) told IOM that after four long agonizing months in Libya, all he wanted was to return home. Frank told IOM:

“ I had USD 400 with me when I arrived and a few pictures of my mother and other family members back home. When I was caught by the police, I was taken to prison. I never received my belongings back. I don't care so long as I get to leave and return home to my family. ”

Fatima, a mother of two – a four-year-old boy and a two-year-old girl – told IOM that she has been stranded in Libya unable to leave since the death of her husband, who had been working in Tripoli. Even though she was not one of the Abu Salim detainees, she found it difficult to survive with no work and no income to support her children. “I never want to return to Libya again,” she said.

More information can be found at: <http://www.iom.int/news/iom-repatriates-stranded-guinean-migrants-libya>





Capacity Building

IOM Libya has organized a three-day training on health care assessment to promote the health of migrants transiting through Morocco, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen and to assist migrants rescued at sea and internally displaced people in Libya.

The training, which took place in Tunis between 19-21 July, was part of two IOM projects: “Direct assistance to migrants rescued at sea and tracking displaced populations inside Libya” and “Promoting Health and well-being among migrants transiting through Morocco, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen,” funded by the United Kingdom Aid and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland.

The main objective of the training was to support IOM migration management counterparts in the field of promoting the health and welfare of migrants who often leave unprepared for their journey. They often lack food and water and find themselves in vulnerable situations with little access to proper health care.



IOM Libya's Project Officer Maysa Khallil hands out certificates during the coordination meeting. Photo: © IOM 2016



Community Stabilization

IOM has conducted a number of meetings with the main stakeholders and are in the process of finalizing a Community Management Committee from both target areas that will be responsible to represent their communities throughout the implementation of projects.



Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)

Flow Monitoring Training

DTM Libya carried out a training of 14 Enumerators on Flow Monitoring. The two day training brought together staff from across Libya to be trained on DTM and its new project which is aimed at identifying and recording the volume and nationality of migrants entering and crossing Libya. The training trained enumerators on how to approach migrants, assessment techniques and the use of technological software. IOM Libya's Flow Monitoring efforts will work towards the Mission's objectives at better articulating Libya's complicated migration patterns and dynamics.

Global Training

DTM Libya staff participated at the global DTM training on Protection Enhanced DTM. This workshop provides a platform for different Missions to directly interact in sharing best practices and lessons learned. The event allowed DTM Libya to develop stronger ties with neighbouring missions and carving new avenues to allow the Libya Mission to better present the regional migration dynamics. Importantly the event provided the platform for all Mission to get better acquainted with the essential techniques towards mainstreaming protection in DTM.

Coordination meeting

IOM Libya led its regular coordination meeting with its Implementing Partners. During the meeting DTM presented the projects' latest achievements, reviewed issues and challenges and discussed plans forward. The coordination meeting provide an opportunity to review technical challenges and review data quality to ensure that DTM Libya's data remains as authoritative.

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