

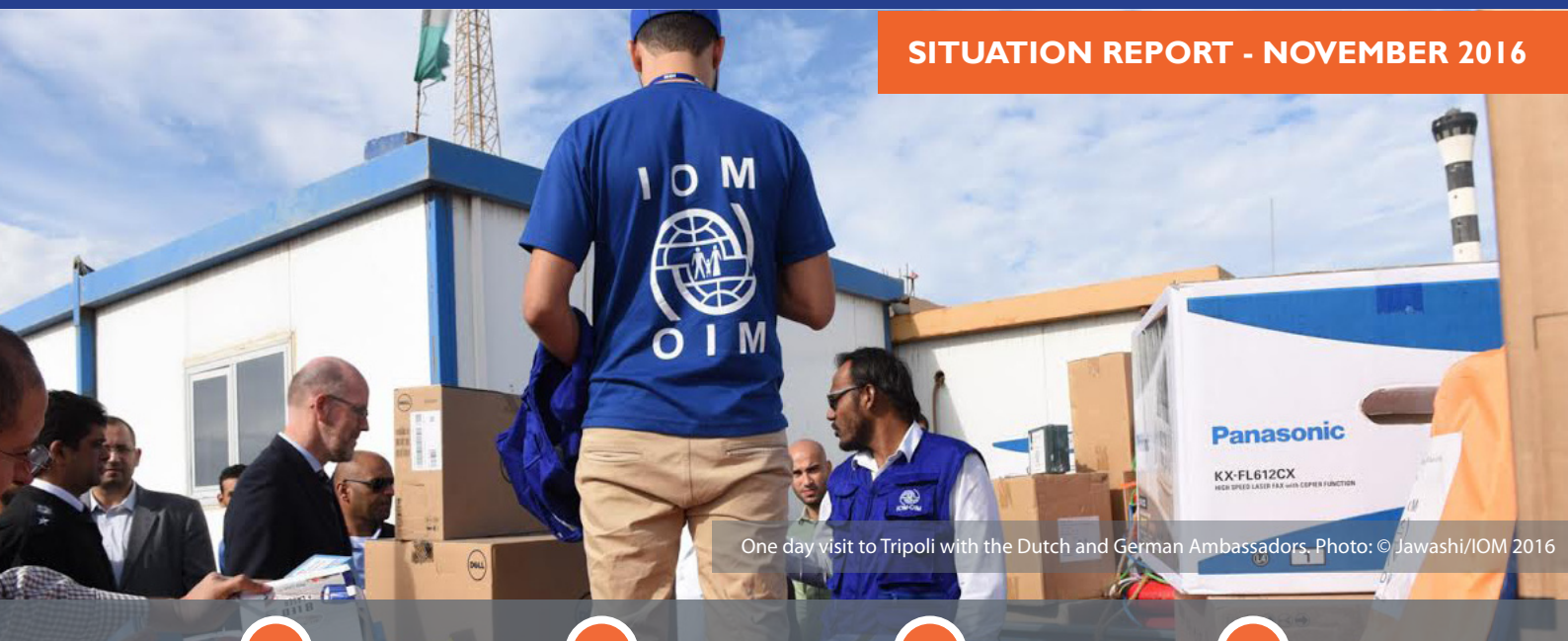


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# LIBYA: HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT TO MIGRANTS AND IDPs

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

SITUATION REPORT - NOVEMBER 2016



One day visit to Tripoli with the Dutch and German Ambassadors. Photo: © Jawashi/IOM 2016

On 1 November, IOM assisted 167 stranded Nigerien migrants, including 48 women, 40 children and 79 men, to return home to Niger from southern Libya.

The Community Stabilization Programme brought the Southern Heritage Festival for Peace to Twaiwa Village on 15 November.

IOM has offered two mobile-phones for the 32 women who escaped from the Islamic State in Sirte, with more interventions planned.

IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has released its fourth Flow Monitoring Analytical report.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

The power struggle between the House of Representatives (HoR), based in the north-eastern city of Tobruk, the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) led by Fayez al-Sarraj and the Tripoli-based General National Congress (GNC) continues, all while GNA's Skhirat-signed agreement is nearing its expiration date in December.

An alternative to the agreement will be unveiled within weeks, a spokesman for forces loyal to the Libyan National Army's General Khalifa Haftar argued in November. Haftar has, in the meantime, requested assistance from Russian counterparts in the fight against Islamic militant groups. At the same time, Libyan forces continue their advance against the Islamic State, which is holding out in a limited neighborhood in their former stronghold of Sirte. The Libyan National Army also says it has made progress in the battle in south Benghazi's Ganfouda and Gwarsha districts. However, the UN has expressed concern over the continued worsening humanitarian situation in these areas. In the meantime, in the south, tensions remain high in Sabha, after four days of tribal fighting erupted, killing around 20 people and injuring more than 50.

On an economic note, Libya-based Waha Oil Co. reached a production rate of 75,000 barrels per day and predicts output to increase. But for ordinary Libyans the economic situation remains strained as the Libyan dinar marked a historical devaluation in exchange of foreign currencies on the black market, \$1 hit a record high by being sold for LYD6.750.

On a migration note, despite approaching winter season migrants continue leaving the Libyan shores on ill-equipped boats, attempting to reach Europe. As of December, 18,557 migrants were rescued outside the Libyan coast, 1,923 of which were in November.



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## DIRECT ASSISTANCE

In November, 3,727 migrants and 1,038 internally displaced families received IOM's direct assistance including for example non-food items (pillows, summer and winter blankets, mattresses), hygiene kits and clothes (including underwear, sportswear, t-shirts and slippers,) through local partners STACO, Ayadi Al Kheir, Moltakana and LRC Benghazi.



On 5 November, distribution for the IDP community at Msallata  
Photo: © IOM 2016

## HEALTH SUPPORT

In the month of November, IOM, together with local partners, assisted 2,066 migrant patients in need of medical care for such cases as upper respiratory infection, tonsillitis, sore throat, gastritis and scabies with symptoms that include skin rash and cough.

In addition, on 28 - 30 November, the health unit held a training with 19 participants from 10 Libyan partner organizations and 8 speakers, covering topics including Hygiene and Sanitation, Maternal and Child Health, Training on Tuberculosis, as well as addressing Healthcare system and challenges facing migrants and Mixed Migration Trends and Risks to, through and from North Africa.



Health check-up at Ghariyan Al Hamra detention centre.  
Photo: © IOM 2016

## RESCUE AT SEA

IOM Libya, in consultation with its counterparts from the Libyan Coast Guard (LCG) and Coast Security, rehabilitated the disembarkation points at Tripoli main port. The site was provided with toilets and showering facilities for rescued migrants and a reception area was prepared in addition to the civil work of the electricity and water supplies networks, in addition to the clinic that was established in September. The Tripoli Main Port disembarkation point is now refurbished to receive the rescued migrants at sea and provide the urgent assistance before referring them to the related agencies.

Engineers have conducted 5 site visits to various disembarkation points and detention centres (i.e. Deila and Al-Masfat disembarkation points in Az-Zawiyah, Al-Hamra detention centre in Ghariyan, Shuhadaa Al-Nasir and Abu Essa detention centres in Az-Zawiyah).

On 24 November, life saving equipment was handed over to the LCG in Tripoli including thoraya sat-phones, torchlights, life vest jackets, live bouys, foil blankets and first aid kits. In addition, 10 desktop computers and 10 laptops were provided in order for LCG to establish a database of the rescued migrants.

*The migrants continue making the perilous journey at great risk, travelling under precarious conditions and on ill-equipped boats, leaving them highly vulnerable to both arduous travel and exploitation of organized criminal networks along the way.*

AS OF DECEMBER,

# 18,557

## RESCUED IN 2016



167 Nigerien migrants on their way home on 1 November.  
Photo: © IOM 2016

## HUMANITARIAN REPATRIATION

On 1 November, IOM assisted 167 stranded Nigerien migrants, including 48 women, 40 children and 79 men, to return home to Niger from southern Libya.

The IOM charter flight was coordinated in close cooperation with the Libyan authorities, the Nigerien embassy in Tripoli, its consulate in Sabha, the Libyan Red Crescent in Sabha and IOM Niger.

IOM interviewed the migrants before they departed and provided health checks to ensure that all passengers were fit to travel.

One of them was Samira, 31, who left Niger with her family. Samira

came to Libya looking for work and a better life. Back in Niger she plans to finish her studies and become a doctor.

Another returnee, Aicha, 34, lost her husband in an armed confrontation in Libya. She was left alone with her five-year-old son, with no means to provide for herself or her child. She plans to rejoin her family in Niger.

The charter was IOM Libya's second humanitarian repatriation from southern Libya. The operation was funded by the UN Central Emergency Response Fund and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In addition, on 23 November, six people received return assistance to go home to Sierra Leone and six people to Afghanistan.

Also on 23 November, IOM Libya assisted, with the help of IOM Dublin, the reunification of two Sudanese under the Irish Government Family Reunification Scheme. Travel documents were issued with the help of ICRC and UNHCR as well as the Irish Consulate in Tunis. The two siblings are now happily reunited with their father.



Furthermore, on 29—30 November, a training of 18 staff members took place in Tunis, covering topics such as protection, communication and roles and responsibilities, as well as addressing how to overcome operational challenges.

## PROTECTION

In November, 25 cases have been referred to the protection unit from IOM colleagues in Libya, UNHCR, DRC, CES-VI, self-referral, hospitals and detention centres. The cases included Unaccompanied Minors, Victims of Trafficking, Sexual and Gender-based violence cases and have contained requests for repatriation and reintegration assistance, psycho-social and medical support.

In addition, IOM's protection team has taken an active role in the emergency

response at Ghariyan Al Hamra detention centre where the unit has coordinated a rapid protection assessment of 47 Unaccompanied Minors conducted by PSS, one of IOM's local partners, on November 6 and the information is currently being analyzed.

The protection unit has, in collaboration with UNFPA and other protection actors, planned activities for the 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence. IOM's Senior Protection Assistant attended the opening ceremony on 24 November. IOM's implementing part-

ner PSS will, together with other local NGOs, give presentations on GBV in universities, IDP camps, women prisons, hospitals and elderly homes.

The protection unit has offered two mobile-phones to the 32 women who escaped from the Islamic State in Sirte and are currently held in Al Jawiya prison in Misratah to call their families. IOM is following up with assistance including psycho-social support.



The Southern Heritage Festival for Peace.  
Photo: © IOM 2016

## COMMUNITY STABILIZATION

Through the Libyan Institute for Advanced Studies, the Community Stabilization Programme brought the Southern Heritage Festival for Peace to Twaiwa Village in conjunction with a broader reconciliation processes on 15 November. The festival gathered the three social components of Southern Libya - Tebou, Touareg and Arab, in one venue with the objective to create an atmosphere of entertainment, and to send educational and awareness messages through displaying the rich traditional customs, folklore, music, and heritage of the South, in order to recall a common history of peaceful coexistence among the social components that comprise Southern society in particular, and Libyan society in general.

In addition, the Together We Build programme has completed a 15-day (13/11– 1/12) Business Startup and Development training, funded by the German government, for 18 individuals – 14 women and 4 men – starting up or developing micro- and small-sized enterprises in Al Qatrun in the south of the country.

The training aimed at helping participants successfully start and build their own businesses, by improving skills such as innovation, production and financial planning, and learning how to make decisions, as well as formulating strategies for accessing markets.



During the Business Startup and Development training.  
Photo: © IOM 2016

Conflict has taken a toll not only on public services, but has also led to the closure and shrinking of industries, and fewer employment and economic opportunities. This activity works to enhance the self-reliance of individuals through their capacity to respond to market demands and start businesses in their identified skill or trade, growing the success of local entrepreneurs and small business owners.

In addition, on 7-8 November, IOM Libya convened the Al Qatrun Community Management Committee (CMC) in Tunis to conduct a context mapping exercise and improve community understanding of the Together We Rebuild [Ma'an Lenabni] program's strategy and objectives.

This followed two CMC planning meetings that took place in Al Qatrun, and was an opportunity to share progress to date on proposed project priorities, reach an agreement on key community thematic concerns, as well as emphasize CMC responsibilities in enabling and promoting the program and its activities. Participants included the Muktar of all six Al Qatrun mahalas, civil society representatives, the Mayor of Al Qatrun, and a representative of the Ministry of Local Governance.

Ali Alsonasy, who is in the process of establishing a kindergarten, explained that the 15-day course has taught him the most important steps of the startup phase. He told IOM:

“

*I took this course knowing that it would help me and my town!*

“

# DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX

IOM Libya's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has released its fourth Flow Monitoring Analytical report, which reveals that Libya remains the main country of intended destination for 56 percent of all migrants surveyed, with Italy, Germany and France being other notable destinations for 17 percent, 7 percent and 5 percent of respondents respectively.

The report presents the results of surveys conducted with 1,946 migrants across nine Flow Monitoring points across Libya.

While the vast majority (81-83 percent) of migrants from Egypt, Chad and Sudan intend to stay in Libya, those from Nigeria were more varied in their responses, with only 16 percent reporting an intention to stay in the country. Forty-three percent intend to continue travelling to Italy, 12 percent to Germany, and the remaining 29 percent to a variety of other countries.

While 88 percent of all respondents reported economic reasons as the main factor driving them to leave their countries of origin, the results reported by migrants from Sudan were notably more varied. Thirty percent of Sudanese respondents reported leaving due to limited access to basic services, 16 percent reported having left due to war, and 5 percent due to limited access to humanitarian services.

Economic reasons were also the main drivers determining migrants' choice of destination. Respondents who intend to go to France, however, also reported the presence of their relatives in country, or their intention to seek asylum in France, as other notable factors influencing their decision.

The surveys, which took place between September and October this year, shed light on the length of time governing the mobility patterns of those in Libya. Seventy-four percent of respondents had spent over 6 months in the country, as compared to the more recent arrivals: only 4 percent having come within the last two weeks, and 11 percent who came to Libya between 2 weeks and 3 months ago.

This is the latest in a series of monthly analytical reports produced by DTM Libya covering the socio-economic backgrounds, nationalities, demographics, and decision-making factors of migrants who are currently in Libya. By interviewing migrants directly, the reports highlight the complex and varied nature of migratory patterns and mobility trajectories of those who travel to the country.

Flow Monitoring captures information on migrants to monitor and understand the trend of movements and population flows in specific locations within a particular time period.

DTM Libya's Flow Monitoring aims to collect and update information on the movement of migrants in Libya, to provide an accurate and timely overview of the migration flows in the country.

DTM is funded by **EU's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO)** and **United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID)**.

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