



WFP Libya Country Brief

April 2018

Country Background

Efforts to reach a peaceful conclusion to the conflict in Libya continue amidst persisting political instability and a volatile security situation. Unrest since 2011 has caused the economic and humanitarian situation in the country to deteriorate significantly; ongoing violence between multiple factions further aggravates an unstable environment. The Government of National Accord (GNA) continues to seek recognition throughout Libya, though it continues to face opposition from rival parliaments and struggle with violence within the country from the many armed militia groups.

Of [Libya's adult population](#), 65.7 percent of women have reached at least a secondary level of education compared to 44.2 percent of their male counterparts. Despite this, only 27.8 percent of women participate in the labour market, as compared to 78.7 percent of men.

According to the World Bank's latest available statistics, the armed conflict has cut the income per capita of Libyan households in more than half, falling to less than USD 4,500 in 2015 from almost USD 13,000 in 2012.

WFP resumed operations in Libya in September 2014.



Population: **6.5 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
102 out of 188

People in Need: 1.1 million (HRP)

Chronic malnutrition: **21% of children between 6-59 months**

Main Photo

Credit: WFP/Flavia Brunetti
Caption: WFP staff visit a distribution point in Tripoli and discuss needs with people in need collecting food.

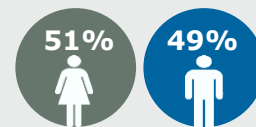
In Numbers

123,000 people in need targeted for food assistance in 2018

65,488 people assisted so far this year

USD 4.7 m six months (May - October 2018) net funding requirements, representing 7.6 percent of total.

44,220 people assisted in April 2018



Operational Context

- Due to conflict and political instability, WFP, along with the entire Libya United Nations Country Team (UNCT), has been operating remotely from Tunisia since 2014. In early July 2017, WFP began ramping up its presence inside Libya through the implementation of missions of rotating international staff to Tripoli. In February 2018, the evacuation status was lifted from Tripoli. As such, the operation has started the implementation of its four-phase re-entry plan; dependent on mobility and the stabilization of the security situation in-country, the plan aims for a gradually increased footprint throughout 2018, culminating in permanent relocation to Tripoli in 2019.
- The humanitarian situation in Libya continues to deteriorate as a result of the prolonged conflict, limited availability of cash in banks, and frequent electricity interruptions, which negatively affect the provision of basic social services. Since mid-2014, fighting in populated areas continues across Libya, leading to civilian casualties, damage to civilian infrastructure and displacement. In 2017, an estimated 1.62 million people were directly affected.
- According to the 2018 [Humanitarian Needs Overview](#), 1.1 million people, of whom 378,000 are children and 307,000 are women of reproductive age (15-49), require life-saving humanitarian assistance and protection.
- Food insecurity remains a challenge due to protracted displacement, disruption to markets and lower food commodity production. Livelihoods and access to basic social services have been affected by the conflict, exposing the most vulnerable people to a high risk of inadequate food consumption and forcing people into negative coping strategies such as spending savings, cutting the number of daily meals and reducing non-food related expenses, particularly in health and education.

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	Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)**
Assistance to People Affected by the Crisis in Libya			
EMOP 200925*	61.9 m	26.1 m	4.7 m

*EMOP 200925 has been extended through a Budget Revision (01 April 2018 - 30 June 2018)
**May – October 2018

GENDER MARKER EMOP 200123

WFP's October 2016 Rapid Food Security assessment indicated that some 24 percent of internally displaced persons (IDPs) (an 18 percent increase since 2015) are food insecure and 62 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity.

IDPs, migrants, returnees and refugees are among the most vulnerable population groups in need of food assistance.

Through its Emergency Operation (EMOP) 200925, WFP aims to provide food assistance to people who are food insecure as a result of the conflict in Libya, mainly IDPs, returnees and refugees, with priority given to unemployed female-headed households, identified as one of the most vulnerable groups.

The EMOP is aligned with WFP's Strategic Objective 1: to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, by addressing the urgent food needs of vulnerable women, men, girls and boys affected by the crisis.

Each family receives two food parcels, enough to support five people for one month. The parcels consist of rice, pasta, wheat flour, chickpeas, vegetable oil, sugar and tomato paste. The food entitlements provide 75 percent (1,530 kcal) of daily energy requirements per person per day. The caloric value of the food basket was designed on the assumption that IDPs have access to other sources of food.

WFP provides food assistance throughout Libya primarily through two local Cooperating Partners (CPs), the Sheikh Taher Azzawi Charity Organization (STACO) and Ayady Al Khair Society (AKS). Efforts are underway to significantly expand the reliable partnership base in order to ensure that WFP can respond immediately to needs throughout the country.

WFP determines the most affected people in consultation with local crisis committees and partners. WFP collaborates with the Libya UN Country Team (UNCT) and the Security Management Team to coordinate its activities with other United Nations agencies, to assess the political and security situation and the resulting impact on operations.

Monitoring

- Currently, WFP monitors its activities through a Libyan Third Party Monitor, Moomken, while a Tunisian call center makes 150 monthly calls to

the people in Libya who have most recently received food. A system of checks and balances ensures feedback turns into real change for the operation.

Operational Updates

- After the lifting of the evacuation status in Tripoli in February, WFP Libya initiated active re-entry into the country. The operation has opened the office in Tripoli, hired national staff, and increased rotating missions of international staff from Tunis, where the office has been since the implementation of the evacuation status in 2014. Reliant on the stabilization of the security situation inside the country, the operation plans to be fully relocated inside Libya in the beginning of 2019, with an expansion into Benghazi, in the east of the country.
- Other initiatives ongoing include expanded support to other vulnerable population groups, a cash-based transfer pilot, and the development of a Special Operation to launch an UNHAS flight.
- The new WFP Country Director, Mr. Samer AbdelJaber, visited Al Fallah IDP camp in Tripoli, where, along with partner AKS, WFP continues to support the displaced Tawarghan community. During the visit, it was agreed that the number of Tawarghans assisted by WFP will be scaled up to a total of 2,500 families (12,500 individuals) per month.
- Two Quick Needs Assessment are planned for the beginning of May: one for the Tuareg families living in displacement camps on the outskirts of Bani Waleed, and one in Ghadamis as one of the locations reported in the [International Organization for Migration \(IOM\) Displacement Tracking Matrix Libya Round 18](#) as having constraints in accessing food, a need also expressed by both WFP partners, who have reported the area as hosting vulnerable populations in need of food assistance. A short social media video highlighting the needs in-country and WFP's response is available in both [English](#) and [Arabic](#), as well as the story of a female-headed household receiving WFP assistance within Libya, published on the [WFP Insight channel](#). In December 2017, WFP [published a story](#) highlighting the support of ECHO in 2017 and the impact of contributions on the operation in Libya.

Challenges

Without consistent funding, WFP is unable to reach its planned number of beneficiaries and is forced to further reduce the number of people receiving food assistance. With sufficient and sustainable funding, WFP can continue ensuring that all populations in need receive food assistance.

WFP's cooperating partners are faced with sporadic telecommunication and electricity outages as well as fuel shortages, which exacerbate existing operational challenges.

Donors

Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Canada, European Union, Italy, Japan, and PepsiCo.