



SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES WFP Libya Country Brief July 2020

# **In Numbers**

**82,122 people assisted** in July 2020





**772 MT** of food assistance distributed in July

**USD 10.4 m** six-month (September 2020 – February 2021) net funding requirements

### **Operational Context**

Efforts to reach a peaceful conclusion to the conflict 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, with ongoing political rivalries and violent struggles worsening since April 2019 to the present day. The effects of the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictions implemented to prevent its spread have deeply impacted Libya.

WFP assists food insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including crisis-affected internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees, non-displaced populations, refugees, asylumseekers and migrants living in urban settings. The operation works under its Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), which helps WFP and its partners to work with the Libyan people to achieve zero hunger by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The ICSP includes general food assistance and emergency food assistance as well as the implementation of programmes that include school feeding and food-for-training for resilience-building and the empowerment of youth and women. WFP is increasingly engaging across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to support the review and rehabilitation of pre-crisis social protection systems. This will be crucial in a postconflict scenario to ensure social cohesion. In 2020, WFP plans to reach 182,000 people in need.

In Libya, WFP leads the Food Security Sector, the Logistics Sector, the Emergency Telecommunications Sector, and manages the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and the UN Hub in Benghazi.



Population: 6.6 million Libyans & 0.63 m migrants/refugees (estimated)

## **Operational Updates**

- In July 2020, WFP reached approximately 82,122
  people in need through its programmes in Libya:
  direct general and emergency food distributions,
  emergency food distributions through the Rapid
  Response Mechanism, food support through the
  new e-voucher modality, and school feeding.
- Based on the results of Quick Needs Assessments (QNA), in July, 7,495 additional newly vulnerable people were identified and enrolled into WFP's general food assistance for the rest of the year. Of these, 4,400 are in Aljufra, Azzawiya and Misrata, 1,675 in Eidabia and 1,420 in Derna. In addition, 26 vulnerable female-headed identified households in Zwara will also be added from August onward. Since WFP focuses on highly vulnerable people, some graduate from assistance once assessments show their needs have been met in order to ensure the inclusion of newly vulnerable people. As a result, through the QNAs, 1,360 people graduated from WFP assistance in July.
- WFP, in consultation with the Ministry of Education and their municipality offices, is organizing a second round of take-home school feeding rations, distributing date bars to 18,379 schoolchildren and their families in Alkufra, Alqatroun, Alsharkiya and Ghat in early August. WHO-produced COVID-19 awareness and prevention leaflets will also be distributed along with WFP rations. Distributions are undertaken by school officials outside of curfew hours and with all COVID-19 precautions in place.
- In July, WFP Libya started its third round of food distributions through the commodity e-voucher modality to just over 5,000 beneficiaries in Tripoli. Measures to prohibit the spread of COVID-19 continue to be stringently implemented.
- In early July, WFP published a Request-For-Proposals for livelihoods activities in southern and eastern Libya. This includes innovative projects such as hydroponics. The selection of NGO profiles and projects is ongoing.

## **WFP Country Strategy**



Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
64 m	38 m
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (September 2020 – February 2021)
32 m	10.4 m

#### **Strategic Result 1:** Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected vulnerable populations in Libya, including schoolchildren, have access to sufficient and nutritious food during and in the aftermath of crises

Focus area: Crisis Response

#### **Activities:**

 Provide assistance to food-insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including schoolchildren, and pilot complementary interventions that improve food security and nutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable populations across Libya have strengthened livelihoods and restored access to basic services all year.

Focus area: Resilience Building

#### **Activities:**

 Provide skills strengthening to vulnerable communities and enhance national and local safety nets

**Strategic Outcome 3:** The humanitarian community in Libya has strengthened capacity to assist vulnerable populations during and in the aftermath of crises.

Focus area: Crisis Response

### Activities:

- Provide logistics sector services to humanitarian partners in Libya
- Provide air services for personnel and light cargo (United Nations Humanitarian Air Service - UNHAS)
- Provide common ICT to humanitarian partners in Libya
- The opening of the UN Hub in Benghazi, a UN compound shared by all UNSMIL and UN agencies

## **Monitoring and Assessment**

- WFP Libya, with support from the WFP Regional Bureau, issued the new mobile VAM bulletin (Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping) developed jointly with the World Bank.
- WFP and FAO undertook a joint assessment to assess the impact of COVID-19 on agriculture and the value chain. The assessment involved data collection from 40 farmers in 12 districts using the mVAM platform as well as conducting Key Informant Interviews for other stakeholders.
- WFP's third-party monitoring partner conducted 110 onsite visits to monitor general food distributions, including through the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) across the regions of the West and South. Warehouse inventory visits were also conducted to three partner warehouses. All distribution points were following the recommended COVID-19 preventive measures.
- The mid-year Post-Distribution Monitoring was concluded for General Food Assistance and Food for Training activities. The data analysis and reporting are underway.

- The M&E team conducted a training to the Tawasul inter-agency call center staff on the reporting structure of the Common Feedback Mechanism.
- The Decentralized Evaluation Inception report is currently under review and expected to be finalized at the end of August. Commissioned by WFP, the evaluation will assess its general food assistance to vulnerable populations in Libya.

### **Gender**

 WFP Libya is planning to conduct a Gender Gap Analysis for Libya in August. The Gender expert recruitment is underway.

### **Challenges**

- As a result of the current insecurity and socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 across the country, humanitarian organizations, including WFP, have been receiving a higher number of requests for food assistance from national authorities, local municipalities and local leaders across Libya. Since March 2020, requests for assistance for more than 100,000 people, in addition to those that WFP is already reaching, have been received.
- A lack of confirmed funding is impacting WFP's ability
  to respond to these new requests for assistance and
  additional funding will be required to respond to rising
  needs and to ensure that this global health crisis does
  not also become a food crisis in Libya.

### **Core Common Services**

- The WFP-managed Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) Common Feedback Mechanism, also serving as a national COVID-19 information channel and hotline, received 3,688 calls in July.
- The ETS received VHF radio network licenses from the Ministry of Telecommunications and is planning to establish a backup VHF radio network in Benghazi, to support the safety and security of staff.
- The Food Security Sector was nominated to be part of the Joint Rapid Needs Assessment (JRNA) Task Force.
   Several meetings were held in July to discuss triggers and scenarios for assessments.
- UNHAS, operated by WFP, is a critical service connecting the country, ensuring safe, reliable air access for the humanitarian and development community in Libya. Despite challenges flying in April and May due to clearance issues because of COVID-19 restrictions, UNHAS successfully re-started weekly flights in July from Tunis to Benghazi and additionally performed flights to Mitiga, providing vital access and essential COVID-19 supplies.

**Donors** Canada, CERF, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, USA (OFDA), United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), Switzerland, EU (ECHO).

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