



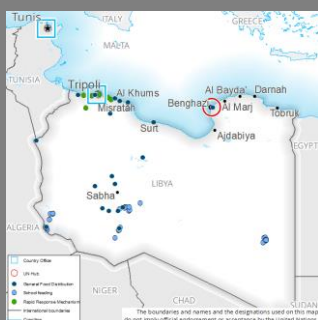
WFP Libya Country Brief September 2020

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, asylum-seekers 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 post-conflict 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)

In Numbers

80,441 people assisted
in September 2020



439 MT of food assistance distributed in September

USD 7.3 m six-month (November 2020 – April 2021)
net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- In September 2020, WFP reached approximately 80,441 people in need through its programmes in Libya, which include direct general and emergency food distributions, emergency food distributions through the inter-agency Rapid Response Mechanism, food support through the new e-voucher modality and food for training activities.
- Based on the successful [first phase](#) of the partnership between WFP and UNHCR Libya from June-July, the scope of the partnership in August was [expanded to the provision of food assistance](#) to some 10,000 vulnerable refugees/asylum-seekers nationwide from September – December 2020. In September, almost 6,700 individuals already received ready-to-eat (RTE) rations in Azawiya, Misurata, Tripoli and Zwara. The WFP-UNHCR joint project aims to support 10,000 people in need through December 2020.
- Since end April, WFP Libya has been successfully implementing monthly distributions through a commodity e-voucher transfer modality, in Tripoli first and then Zwara since August. In September, 9,355 people benefitted from e-voucher distributions. Recipients can redeem their food parcels at local stores through the use of a locally developed app, stimulating the economy and raising partner tech capacity. Measures to prohibit the spread of COVID-19 continue to be stringently implemented.
- Food assistance for training programmes were on hold since April due to the pandemic but [restarted on 12 September 2020](#) for 175 participants, in Aljmail, Rigdaleen, Sabratha, Tawergha and Zolten, with full COVID-19 precautionary health measures in place for participants, partners and WFP personnel. Preparations are ongoing to expand livelihood activities to other areas, notably to Benghazi.
- WFP has been discussing how to best support the safe re-opening of schools with relevant ministries. WFP, in partnership with Intersos and in coordination with Education actors, is also preparing to start a healthy kitchen project at two pilot schools in central Tripoli and Sook Aljuma.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
64 m	44 m
2020 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (November 2020 – April 2021)
32 m	7.3 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's third-party monitoring partner conducted 104 onsite visits to monitor food distributions across 71 different points in the West and South of the country. Warehouse inventory examinations were conducted in four WFP partner warehouses in the East, West and South. WFP interviewed 300 beneficiaries through quality control calls to collect feedback on the receipt of assistance and food delivery at distribution sites.
- According to mid-year outcome Food Assistance for Training (FFT) monitoring results, income and savings earned through the training activities contributed to greater food security of participants, despite the challenges posed by COVID-19. 89.3 percent of former FFT participants in the West reported acceptable food consumption scores, slightly higher than general food assistance beneficiaries who reported the same at 85.1 percent. Former trainees also expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the training.
- Several quick needs assessments were conducted to assess the needs of newly identified vulnerable people in Brak and Alkufra. Following quick needs assessments of migrants and asylum seekers in Musratha, Azzawya, Zwara and Tripoli,

food assistance was deemed as critical as 42 percent of the surveyed people in Azawiya had poor or borderline food consumption scores. The majority of migrants adopted negative coping strategies in order to cope with food scarcity, with 67 percent borrowing food from friends, 59 percent reducing the number of meals eaten and 54 percent limiting the portion size of meals for all members in the household.

Challenges

- As a result of insecurity and the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, humanitarian organizations, including WFP, have been receiving a high number of requests for food assistance from national and local authorities across Libya.
- Funding is urgently 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, addressed 2,213 calls in September.
- In September, UNHAS performed weekly flights connecting the East and the West of the country at the same time - going from Tunis to Tripoli and Benghazi and then back - providing vital access and [critical COVID supplies](#). UNHAS is still in urgent need of funding.
- Thanks to a stand-by partnership with Swiss Aid, WFP has been able to support humanitarian-development-peacebuilding nexus efforts with a dedicated coordinator who has been facilitating several meetings among the task force for the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS) on an outreach & advocacy project on COVID-19 related threats with the participation of IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNWOMEN and WFP.

Donors CERF, EU Humanitarian Aid, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, WFP Multilateral Donors