

World Food

Programme



SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

WFP Libya Country Brief November 2020

Operational Context

Efforts to reach a peaceful conclusion to the conflict continue amid 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 the 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 to build resilience and empower 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 and 0.63 million migrants/refugees (estimated)

In Numbers



104,766 people assisted in November 2020

1,056 MT of food assistance distributed in November

USD 11.4 m six-month (January – June 2021) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- In November 2020, WFP reached 104,766 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 an e-voucher modality, food assistance for training activities and a school feeding/healthy kitchen project.
- Vocational and soft-skills training sessions on cooking, sewing, plastering, electrical maintenance and mobile phone maintenance were held through the Food Assistance for Training scheme in Tawergha, Zwara and Nalut in the West, as well as Ghadames and Benghazi in the East. Since 19 November, courses in personal finance and the internationally recognized International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL) are now being offered in Nalut and Ghadames to 150 people, including members and staff from the municipal council. Those without internet or smartphone access will be able to participate through devices made available in the vocational training locations.
- On 12 November, the WFP Country Director met the UN Women Country Director to launch a joint initiative between the two agencies to support women and food security.
- WFP welcomed a contribution from the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid of EUR 1 million (around USD 1.2 million): EUR 900,000 for UNHAS and EUR 100,000 for the Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) Common Feedback Mechanism.
- WFP <u>welcomed</u> the Czech Republic's contribution of CZK 100,000 (around USD 430,000) for livelihoods and resilience activities along migration routes for migrants, IDPs and vulnerable host communities, empowering particularly women and youth.

Photo caption: UNHAS transports COVID supplies into Libya ©WFP/Nicholas Mwega.

WFP Country Strategy



Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2020)	
Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
106 m	47 m
2021 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (January - June 2021)
42 m	11.4 m

N.b. The Interim Country Strategic Plan is currently undergoing a budget revision which will extend WFP's operation in Libya until December 2021.

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 115 onsite visits to monitor food distributions across 39 different points in the West, East and South of the country.
- WFP's third-party monitoring partner also completed 163 quick needs assessment surveys to assess the needs of newly identified vulnerable people, including in Traghan.
- WFP interviewed 97 people receiving commodity vouchers to collect feedback on assistance; eight visits were made to retail shops to conduct process monitoring.
- Two visits were conducted to monitor food assistance for training with partner Tatweer in Benghazi, after this activity was newly expanded to the East. Findings were positive, including terms of the training facility, timeliness and preventative measures taken against COVID-19.
- Market monitoring data collection for November began on 8 November. WFP, through its partners, collected the prices of 32 items in 20 cities across the West and South.

Gender

- Eight focus group discussions were conducted with different beneficiary and non-beneficiary male and female groups in different locations as part of the data collection for an ongoing Gender Gap Analysis. This analysis aims to better understand the gender context and any potential gaps in programmatic interventions and actions. Key informant interviews are planned to begin in early December.
- To mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence (GBV) campaign, WFP ran a number of initiatives in Libya including a <u>partnership with a Libyan</u> <u>artist</u> and a GBV awareness session in Traghen.

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, received over 1,300 calls in November.
- In November, 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 back - providing vital access for 164 passengers. Due to high demand, an additional weekly flight connecting Tunis and Tripoli is to be tentatively scheduled starting in December.
- Thanks to a standby partnership with Swiss Aid, WFP has been able to support humanitarian-developmentpeacebuilding 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 and advocacy project on COVID-19 related threats with the participation of IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women and WFP.

Donors

CERF, Czech Republic, 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, WFP Private Sector Partners