



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES



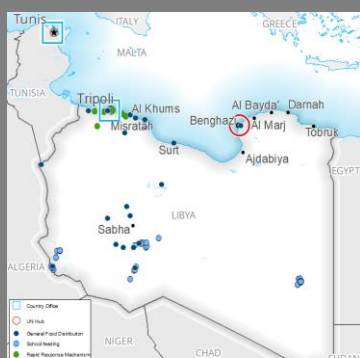
## WFP Libya Country Brief March 2022

### Operational Context

Persistent insecurity and instability since Libya's 2011 uprising have led the socioeconomic, humanitarian and protection environment to deteriorate significantly. A decade later, many households are struggling to meet their basic needs and face high unemployment rates, a severe economic downturn and struggling public services, compounded by the absence of previously elaborate social safety nets. Sudden-onset shocks, including the emergence of COVID-19, have also rendered the situation more complex, in addition to the political uncertainty caused by the postponed elections of December 2021. The crisis that broke out between Russia and Ukraine, and tensions in the region following the Russian invasion of Ukrainian territory threatens economic crises worldwide, including Libya which relies heavily on importing its food from abroad, especially cereals and flour.

Confronted with this multi-layered and volatile crisis, WFP has maintained its ability to rapidly adapt and respond to needs. Under its Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) 2019-2022, WFP assists food-insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including crisis-affected internally displaced persons, returnees, non-displaced populations, refugees, asylum-seekers, and migrants in urban settings. The ICSP encompasses general and emergency food assistance as well as complementary programmes such as school feeding and food assistance for training to build resilience and empower youth and women. WFP also engages across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and supports the review and rehabilitation of social protection systems.

WFP co-leads the Food Security Sector and leads the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Sectors. To strengthen the humanitarian community's capacity, WFP also manages the UN Humanitarian Air Service and UN Hub in Benghazi.



Population: **7.56 million Libyans** and **0.64 million migrants/refugees** (estimated).

### In Numbers

**125,586 people assisted**  
in March 2022



**481 MT of food assistance**  
in March 2022

**USD 18,671 of voucher assistance**  
in March 2022

**USD 18.6 million** six-month funding requirements  
(April – September 2022)

### Operational Updates

- WFP Libya reached 125,586 beneficiaries in March.
  - Some 72,335 beneficiaries were reached through the monthly in-kind half-ration general food assistance (GFA),
  - 303 refugees and 2,909 migrants through in-kind ready-to-eat food assistance,
  - 847 refugees through restricted value vouchers,
  - 35,781 schoolchildren through date bar school feeding,
  - 8,211 schoolchildren through central kitchen school feeding, and
  - 5,200 individuals through in-kind food assistance for training interventions.
- On 15 March, WFP Libya Country Director attended the National Social Protection Policy Steering Committee meeting with the representatives of the National Economic and Social Development Board and UNICEF Libya Representative. WFP, UNICEF and other international agencies committed to supporting the Board's efforts to implement the roadmap toward the National Social Protection Policy. A related [news article](#).
- On 17 March, the Resident Coordinator's Office, with WFP's support, facilitated the Nexus Working Group meeting with 48 participants from donor communities, INGOs, research institutions and UN agencies. It was the first Nexus Working Group meeting chaired by the RCO after WFP chaired it for the past three years. IOM and UNHCR, as the co-leads of the Internal Displacement and Durable Solution Working Group, presented two Collective Outcomes in Libya for 2023-2025, and the Nexus Working Group members raised questions about the Collective Outcomes.
- On 24 March, IOM Libya and WFP Libya signed the UN-UN Fund transfer agreement for the partnership in conducting the socio-economic research for migrants in Libya.
- On 29 March, WFP, the Ministry of Environment and REACH met to discuss the preliminary findings from the climate change and livelihoods assessment conducted by WFP and REACH. The report is expected to be finalized and published in April 2022.
- On 31 March, WFP began the construction of the market in Sebha. WFP's Civil Engineer was in attendance and met with local community leaders, farmers, and the municipality officials in Sebha.

**Photo:** WFP Libya Country Director attending the National Social Protection Policy Steering Committee meeting in Tripoli.

## Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
<b>156 million</b>	<b>83 million</b>
2022 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (April - September 2022)
<b>50 million</b>	<b>18.6 million</b>

### 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 services to humanitarian partners in Libya
- Provide air services for personnel and light cargo (UN 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 UNSMIL and UN agencies

[WFP Libya 2021 Annual Country Report](#) **New**

## Monitoring and Assessment

- In March 2022, WFP Libya's third-party monitoring conducted 123 on-site visits to monitor the February general food assistance and ready-to-eat food distributions in 40 distribution points around the country. The third-party monitoring reports showed that most of the beneficiaries were satisfied with the food assistance, and some requested an increase in the quantity if possible.
- The third-party monitoring conducted five food assistance for assets visits to the Hydroponics projects in the Southern region to monitor and evaluate the performance of the ongoing activity.
- The third-party monitoring conducted four visits to food assistance for training vocational trainings in the west of Tripoli to evaluate the performance of WFP's cooperating partner and collect 5 percent of beneficiaries' feedback.
- For the school feeding programme, during the month of March, the third-party monitoring has conducted 11 on-site monitoring visits to 10 schools and one central kitchen in the

Eastern region of the country, where students received fortified date-bars to encourage their nutrition and school attendance.

## Sectors and Common Services

- The WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) continues to provide communications services for humanitarian and affected populations in two common operational areas—Tripoli and Benghazi.
- To improve radio networks for humanitarians in Benghazi, an inter-agency team is obtaining additional equipment, including a satellite phone and four handheld radios to equip the Security Operations Centre (SOC).
- In March, the inter-agency Common Feedback Mechanism (CFM) Tawasul call centre registered 5,679 cases of people requesting humanitarian assistance information/feedback.
- UNHAS provided vital access to over 401 passengers from 40 different organizations with 22 scheduled flights connecting the East, West and South of the country - going from Tunis to Tripoli, Sebha, Benghazi & Al-Kufra, and back. A total of 2.3 mt of cargo was transported, including over 1.1 mt of medical items from Benghazi to Alkufrah on behalf of PUI (Premiere Urgence Internationale). Out of the scheduled flights, two to Misrata were canceled due to lack of passengers. UNHAS flew twice to Al-Kufra and twice to Sebha.

## Challenges

- WFP operations in Libya urgently requires USD 18.6 million from April to September 2022. WFP was obliged to reduce the in-kind GFA rations by 50 percent for some 90,000 people starting from December 2021 to avoid the complete suspension of life-saving interventions. WFP has already informed beneficiaries, partners and donors regarding ration reductions.
- The Ministry of Social Affairs and municipality Social Affairs offices have raised the increased number of reports and requests for food assistance for vulnerable people in Libya. WFP is reviewing these reports to distinguish between the seasonal needs related to Ramadan and the ones related to food price hikes caused by the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. The Joint Market Monitoring Initiative revealed that the average overall cost of the minimum expenditure for the basic food basket in Libya has increased by 7 percent during March 2022, in particular it reported an increase of flour price by 12 percent.
- Libya's House of Representatives (HoR), based in Tobruk, approved a new government on 1 March with former Libyan interior minister Fathi Bashagha as its prime minister. Current Prime Minister Abdulhamid Dbeibeh, who heads the U.N.-recognized Government of National Unity (GNU) based in Tripoli, rejected the parliament's decision, vowing to continue ruling from Tripoli. Hence, national reconciliation is once again hindered, and Tripoli/Western Region is marred by on and off tensions between armed groups. In this context, the risk of sporadic clashes remains high, which may impact on staff movements towards the governmental facilities and disturbance of UNHAS operation between the West and East.

## Donors (in alphabetical order)

Canada, CERF, Czech Republic, EU Humanitarian Aid, France, Germany, Greece, 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, World Bank.

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