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, thousands of 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. Libya is among the heavily affected by the Ukraine; it imported its food from abroad, especially cereals and flour.

Confronted with 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, 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.

In Numbers

85,625 people assisted in April 2022

$20 m of food assistance distributed

US$ 33,901 voucher assistance made

US$ 21.2 m six months (May-October 2022) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- WFP Libya delivered assistance to 85,625 beneficiaries through in-kind general food assistance (GFA), in-kind ready-to-eat food assistance, food-restricted prepaid card, restricted value vouchers, and unrestricted prepaid cards for food assistance for training (FFT) activities.

- Of the assisted people, 75,395 beneficiaries received half-ration of the monthly GFA. 2,657 refugees and 1,083 migrants received in-kind ready-to-eat food assistance, 4,000 were assisted with in-kind emergency assistance and 687 refugees through restricted value vouchers.

- WFP launched the prepaid card cash transfers for 534 GFA beneficiaries and 1,269 FFT beneficiaries. Beneficiaries received their prepaid cards after verification, sensitisation and card activation processes under WFP together with its cooperating partner and the financial service provider. A total of USD 33,901 was redeemed by beneficiaries at the local supermarkets.

- In line with the food systems approach, an initiative called “Made in Libya” was established to promote productivity and build resilience of beneficiaries against climatic shocks. WFP and an NGO cooperating partner signed the Field Level Agreement on 09 April and continue to assess together the intervention design.

- WFP and the Microfinance Institute in Libya discussed a new partnership aimed at increasing access to finance opportunities amongst vulnerable populations. The pilot, starting in 2022, will focus on agriculture and food systems under a Memorandum of Understanding signed in March 2022.

- On 18 April, WFP and UNICEF co-chaired a UN meeting on the social protection sector in Libya to prepare for meeting the National Economic and Social Development Board and national institutions in May.

- On 27 April, WFP, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Planning, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Bureau of Statistics as well as the Social Solidarity Fund, the Zakat Fund and the Price Stabilisation Fund attended a World Bank-facilitated online meeting. The meeting presented key findings of the WFP/World Bank Core Diagnostic instrument (CODI) report of the “Social Assistance Programmes and Deliveries in Libya”.

Photo: WFP Libya’s first CBT prepaid card being used by a beneficiary to redeem their share of food items during the month of Ramadan.

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WFP Country Strategy

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)

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<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (USD)</th>
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<td>156 million</td>
<td>84 million</td>
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2022 Requirements (USD) | Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (May - October 2022)
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<td>50 million</td>
<td>21.2 million</td>
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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

Monitoring and Assessment

- For GFA in Libya, WFP’s third-party monitoring conducted 90 on-site visits to monitor the April round in 34 distribution points. All locations were assessed as safe for beneficiaries with no safety complaints reported. Beneficiaries’ main concern was the cut of their assistance.

- Under the WFP/IOM partnership to distribute ready-to-eat food assistance, WFP requested the third-party monitoring in 4 cities (Tripoli, Bani Walied, AlQatroun and Benghazi). During April round, 28 visits were conducted targeting migrants from 16 nationalities.

- For the pilot prepaid card cash transfers, the third-party monitoring conducted 12 visits to monitor card distributions to the new caseloads in Hay Alandalus municipality in Tripoli. Monitoring findings showed beneficiaries’ satisfaction with the new modality as it offered them freedom in choosing their preferred food items.

- Joint Market Monitoring Assessment with NGO REACH: Market price monitoring for April started on 05 April in 20 municipalities in the West and South of the country. Data collection included an additional part about wheat prices to assess the impact of the Ukraine crisis.

- Out of the targeted 3,000 surveys, a total of 1,232 surveys were conducted in the first round of data collection for the Social Protection Assessment for Refugees.

- WFP and REACH drafted the report on the Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analyzing Resilience (CLEAR). The report will be finalised in June 2022 after the review and endorsement of WFP, REACH and the Libyan Ministry of Environment.

Sectors and Common Services

- The WFP-led Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) continues to provide communications services for humanitarians and affected populations in two common operational areas—Tripoli and Benghazi.

- As originally recommended by Telecommunications Security Standards (TESS), the inter-agency ICT community in Libya has adopted the use of VHF radio in analogue as the preferred technology to facilitate security communications systems of the humanitarian community in Libya. Using VHF infrastructure will ensure all radio equipment used by the humanitarian community in Libya is accessible and compatible.

- The ETS-managed inter-agency Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) call centre in Tripoli registered 6,092 cases related to humanitarian issues in April. This represents a seven percent increase from March reporting. At the end of the reporting period, 99 percent of cases had been resolved and one percent were referred for further support.

- UNHAS Libya provided vital access to over 222 passengers from 34 different organizations with 22 scheduled flights connecting the East, West and South of the country - going from Tunis to Tripoli, Benghazi, Alkufr and back, transporting 0.27mt of cargo. Two scheduled flights to Misrata and one to Sebha were cancelled due to lack of passengers. UNHAS flew twice to ALKUFRA and once to Sebha.

Challenges

- WFP operations in Libya urgently requires USD 21 million from May to October 2022. WFP has been obliged to reduce the in-kind GFA rations by 50 percent for some 90,000 people since December 2021 to avoid the complete suspension of life-saving interventions.

- The UNHAS Libya also requires USD 3.7 million for their operational continuity for humanitarian actors and donors.

- It has been reported that recent sandstorms across Libya damaged farmers and crops by the higher temperatures and strong winds. In addition, transportation was reportedly blocked in some areas due to the weather conditions, driving up the prices of some seeds and other raw materials. WFP continues to monitor the situation to ensure its implementation runs smoothly.

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.