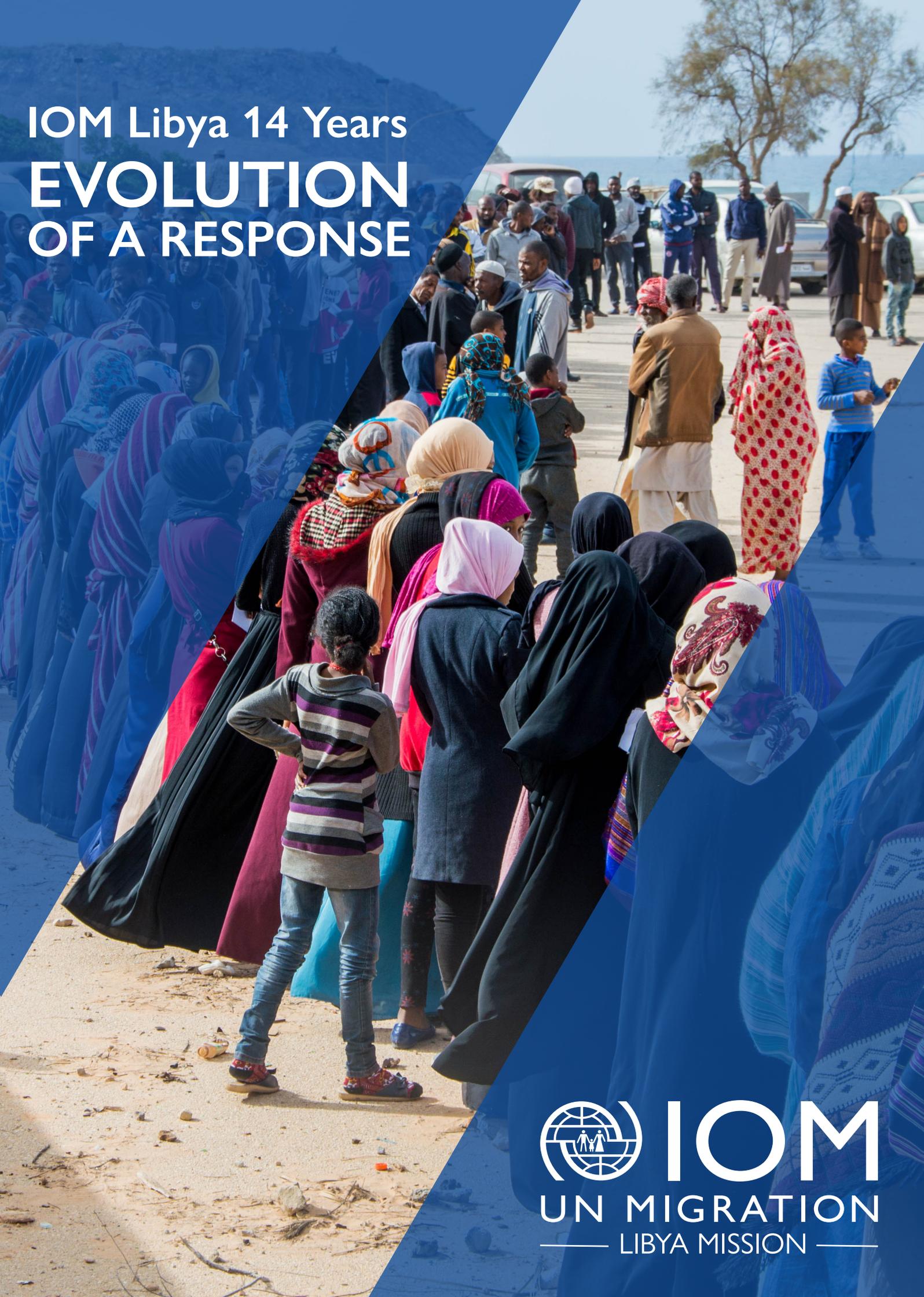


IOM Libya 14 Years EVOLUTION OF A RESPONSE



IOM

UN MIGRATION

LIBYA MISSION

IOM LIBYA

IOM Libya works with its partners in the international community to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration and uphold the well-being of migrants.

IOM's overall vision is to enhance good governance of migration towards humane and orderly migration and human mobility, which benefits migrants and societies.

IOM Libya works to help ensure orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people. The IOM Constitution recognizes the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as the right to freedom of movement.

IOM activities that cut across these areas include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants' rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration.

IOM established its operations in Libya in 2006 and continues to maintain a strong presence in the country, with 344 staff (35 international, 62 national and 247 third party contractors) working from three offices in Tripoli and in southern and eastern Libya. The mission runs a number of projects across Libya, including in the cities of Tripoli, Sabratha, Benghazi, Tobruk, Azzawya, Zwara, Misrata, Sirt, Albayda, Derna, among others.

In 2019, IOM Libya has continued to expand in staff and operations across the country, further strengthening its humanitarian response. Working in close cooperation with the Libyan Government, IOM reached thousands of displaced and conflict-affected Libyans and migrants in need with vital humanitarian and development assistance.

Main areas of intervention: IOM couples emergency response to humanitarian crisis with long-term sustainable projects including migration management and community stabilization.

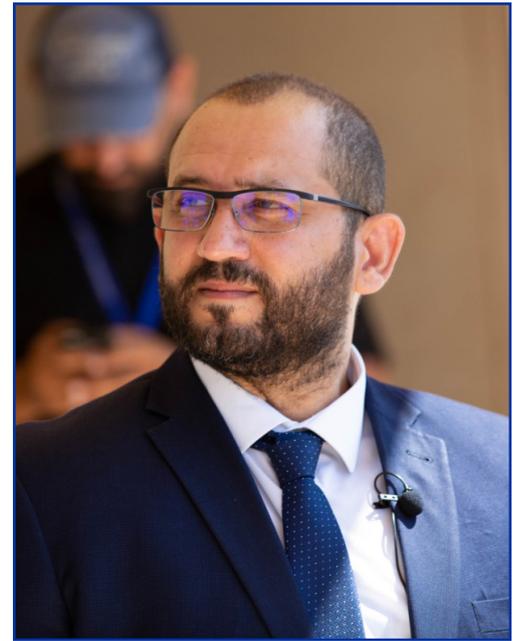




FOREWORD

Since the establishment of our Mission in Libya, IOM has maintained close working relationships with the Government, communities and civil society organizations. Through this, IOM has developed strategies and practical assistance to address the needs of those most vulnerable. In the field, IOM supports capacity development for all actors working in the scope of migration management.

Due to the volatile and unpredictable Libyan context, this Mission has experienced numerous phases, scenarios and challenges since 2005. In 2011 Libya witnessed several waves of displacement and migration. Libya became the main transit route to Europe through the Mediterranean. We are all well aware that this central Mediterranean route is one of the most dangerous routes for migrants. Tragically, more than 15,000 individuals have lost their lives attempting this dangerous journey in the past 5 years.



IOM Libya has managed to reach migrants and displaced in need in almost all parts of the country.

This book illustrates highlights of the Mission's main achievements over the past few years, only achieved because of our staff across the board, who have contributed significantly to assisting vulnerable individuals and communities in need. Our staff on the ground risk their lives delivering IOM work in Libya. The Mission's staff continue to demonstrate commitment and flexibility, to ensure that IOM provides support and services to those most in need.

There is no doubt that we all agree that more needs to be done to save lives and address the complex situation in Libya. The situation remains dire and we must all continue to take steps forward to make a positive contribution, in any capacity. We must continue to find solutions.

We will always remember those who have lost their lives, those who have been affected, colleagues who we have lost too soon.

In the last 7 years as Chief of Mission in Libya, I have been afforded opportunities to experience Libya on the ground. The beauty of its people and its regions.

I express my gratitude and respect to the Libyan people. For their trust, hospitality and the opportunities given to me to serve alongside its people.

On behalf of this Mission, I thank our donors and their support for IOM programs. With the support of all stakeholders and actors in Libya, it is with these generous contributions that we were able to expand and continue our programs in Libya.

The IOM Mission in Libya expresses its appreciation and best wishes to Libya, its government, and its people.

Othman BELBEISI
IOM Libya Chief of Mission



HIGHLIGHTS FROM IOM OVER THE YEARS



OPENING OF IOM OFFICE IN TRIPOLI



2005

In August 2005, IOM director general signed an agreement with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, which provides IOM with the same privileges and immunities as specified by the 1947 Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the UN. Through a series of diplomatic and technical consultations held in Geneva and Tripoli, IOM and Libya have agreed to cooperate on migration issues such as the assisted voluntary return of migrants to their home countries and their reintegration, labour migration, international migration law and migrant rights, as well as technical assistance and capacity building for migration management.

The opening of the IOM Office in Tripoli was a concrete expression of the strong partnership between the Libya and IOM.

Libya, which joined IOM in June 2004, is an active player in the Western Mediterranean Dialogue on Migration which brought together ministers and representatives of the governments of Algeria, France, Italy, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain and Tunisia to work on common migration issues.

2006

PROVIDING TRAININGS FOR LIBYAN OFFICIALS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION LAW

IOM organized a technical workshop for some 70 senior police officials and representatives from the Ministry of Justice and the Prime Minister's office.

The workshop focused on international migration law, migrants' rights and on provisions and best practices in the fields of assisted voluntary return and reintegration for stranded migrants. Ambassadors and senior consular personnel from European and African countries also attended the workshop.

2007

IOM CARRIES OUT SERIES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAININGS

IOM, in partnership with the Libyan Ministry of Interior carried out a series human trafficking awareness workshops for 50 law enforcement officials and members of charity associations.

The workshops focused on international migration law, standards and principles of international protection and on best practices in the fields of victim identification and assistance.

This latest initiative was part of IOM's long-term capacity building programmes in Libya, aiming to support local strategies to effectively fight human trafficking and to raise awareness of the trafficking phenomenon among the general public.

With extensive desert and maritime borders and wealth, Libya has been a preferred destination or transit country for many smuggled and trafficked migrants.

IOM AND LIBYAN GOVERNMENT CO-MANAGE CENTRE PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO STRANDED MIGRANTS



2008

A centre to provide humanitarian assistance to irregular migrants stranded in Libya opened in Tripoli by the Libyan government and IOM. The centre was part of an initiative to provide comprehensive rapid humanitarian responses to the plight of stranded migrants, provided migrants with factual, unbiased information on the dangers of irregular migration along with the option of voluntary return to and reintegration assistance in their country of origin.

In addition to providing temporary accommodation for up to 40 people, medical assistance, support and counselling, the centre constituted a training ground for Libyan counterparts to strengthen expertise on assisted voluntary returns.

2009

CHARITY CONCERT IN TRIPOLI RAISES AWARENESS ON THE DANGERS OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION

IOM and local organizations organized a concert in Tripoli bringing top performers from Ghana and Niger as part of efforts to raise awareness on the pitfalls of irregular migration.

As part of the event, community leaders and migrants who have failed in their attempt to reach Europe testified on their ordeal. IOM representatives informed the prospective of migrants on the realities of migration abroad and conveyed information on both the opportunities of legal migration and limitations of irregular

2010

IOM ASSISTS STRANDED NEPALI WORKERS TO RETURN HOME FROM LIBYA

IOM assisted a group of 111 stranded Nepali migrant workers to return home from Libya.

The return, which was facilitated by IOM at the request of the Government of Nepal, marked the successful conclusion of complex negotiations to help the workers to return home.

The group of 111 Nepalis were recruited by an International Manpower to work for a company in Libya, in November 2008. In 2010, the company closed, refusing to pay back salaries and withholding the workers' passports. With no source of income, the workers were soon living in conditions of misery. The Nepali government then asked IOM to intervene with the Libyan authorities to facilitate the return home of the workers. After meetings involving the Government of Libya, the IOM mission in Tripoli, the Nepali Embassy in Cairo and the company, the issue was successfully resolved.

2011 EMERGENCY



2011

In 2011 Libya witnessed unprecedented civil unrest when demonstrators took to the streets to protest economic and social conditions.

The ensuing level of violence and insecurity has prompted massive exodus of migrants from Libya into the neighboring countries.

Since the onset of the crisis, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) was actively involved in the coordination and provision of various types of humanitarian assistance to all the categories of evacuees displaced by the crisis. However, the primary focus of IOM was to provide immediate evacuation, return and humanitarian assistance to migrants.

IOM organized the registration, delivered immediate humanitarian relief and provided repatriation transport to more than 300,000 migrants.

By the end of December, IOM had evacuated a total of 115,563 persons from Tunisia on board of 1,008 charter or commercial flights.

Regular evacuations have been absolutely essential in maintaining order at the border with Libya.

IOM EVACUATION OF STRANDED MIGRANTS FROM MISRATA



Hundreds of stranded Chadian migrants, majority of whom were women and children were airlifted out of the Southern Libyan town of Sabha and flown back to the Chadian capital N'Djamena onboard IOM chartered flights.

Some 370 vulnerable individuals who had spent weeks living in the open with limited access to food, water and health services, have been evacuated together with their belongings. Most of the migrants had been employed for many years in Libya, working menial jobs in the informal sector of the economy in cities such as Kufra, Misrata, Al Jufra, Sabha and elsewhere. Prior to their departure, IOM staff in Sabha distributed water, food and hygiene materials purchased from the local market to the stranded migrants. Medical checks were carried out with the support of the Libyan Red Crescent. Serious cases, like the case of a woman suffering from acute TB, are referred to Sabha general hospital.

IOM staff on the ground in Sabha at the time identified a location to set up a transit centre which accommodated 500 persons who received food, water, shelter and medical care. More than 70,000 Chadian migrants returned from Libya over the course of four months.

IOM EVACUATION OF STRANDED MIGRANTS FROM LIBYA



Hundreds of stranded Chadian migrants, the majority of whom were women and children, were airlifted out of the southern Libyan town of Sebha and flown back to the Chadian capital N'Djamena onboard IOM chartered flights.

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Prior to their departure, IOM staff in Sebha distributed water, food and hygiene materials purchased from the local market to the stranded migrants. Medical checks were carried out with the support of the Libyan Red Crescent. Serious medical cases, such as acute TB are referred to Sebha general hospital.

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“DURING THE CLASHES OF 2011, WHEN MIGRANTS WERE EVACUATED TO TUNIS, CAIRO AND NIGER. IT WAS THE NATIONAL STAFF WHO WERE ORGANIZING THE BOAT DEPARTURES. IT IS THE DEDICATION OF OUR NATIONAL COLLEAGUES IN LIBYA WHO HAVE MADE THAT HAPPEN. THIS HAPPENED AGAIN IN 2014 AT THE LIBYA DAWN WHEN ALL THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF HAD BEEN EVACUATED AND NO ONE WAS HERE APART FROM OUR NATIONAL STAFF. THEY ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE BUILT IOM’S REPUTATION AND THE IMAGE IT HAS TODAY. BECAUSE OF THEIR DEDICATION. THEY STARTED THE CHARTER FLIGHT EVACUATIONS AND PROVIDED ASSISTANCE TO STRANDED MIGRANTS AND IDPS, WHILE THERE WERE CLASHES ON THE GROUND. THEIR DEDICATION, WHAT THEY HAVE GIVEN AND WHAT THEY CONTINUE TO GIVE TO THE ORGANIZATION IN LIBYA IS THE BASIS OF OUR REPUTATION. THERE ARE MANY INCIDENTS WHERE THEY HAVE RISKED THEIR LIVES FOR WHAT THEY ARE DEDICATED TO - THE LIVES OF OTHER HUMANS BEINGS.”

ASHRAF HASSAN - PROGRAM MANAGER VHR

PROVISION OF PSYCHO-SOCIAL COURSES TO AID WAR VICTIMS



2012

A group of 35 Libyan health, educational and social workers were the first intake of a six-month IOM psycho-social course offered at the University of Tripoli. Participants on “Psychological Intervention in War-Torn Societies” were taught to devise emergency psychological programmes to tackle the long-term emotional and social effects of the Libyan crisis.

The course, which has been designed specifically for the Libyan context, was part of a wider IOM psycho-social response to the Libyan crisis, which started with the provision of psycho-social assistance at transit centres for thousands of migrants fleeing Libya.

As in all major crises, the events in Libya had a considerable psycho-social impact on people. Those who witnessed atrocities have suffered emotional problems including stress, depression and feelings of insecurity.

IOM also implemented other psycho-social programmes targeting people affected by the war, including the internally displaced.

PROVISION OF AID TO DISPLACED FAMILIES IN LIBYA



2013

IOM, in partnership with a group of 37 NGOs provided targeted distributions of essential non-food relief items to displaced families (IDPs) living in camps around the country, particularly in and around Tripoli.

The aid, which included blankets, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, was distributed to over 1,000 families or 4,800 people living in IDP sites in the Janzour, Airport Road and Felallah areas of Tripoli.

The sites, together with 14 others, were home to families forced to flee the small town of Tawergha, located between the coastal cities of Mistrata and Sirte, during the revolution that led to the overthrow of the Gaddafi regime.

Tawergha, which before the revolution had a population of 30,000, was at the time a ghost town. The townspeople, who were perceived to have backed the previous regime, were still unable to return home two years after the conflict.

IOM OPENS A MEDICAL CLINIC IN MIGRANT ACCOMODATION CENTRE



IOM, in coordination with the Libyan authorities, opened a new medical clinic at the Twaisha government migrant centre in the Libyan capital, Tripoli.

IOM carried out rehabilitation and renovation of a building in the Twaisha compound, turning it into a clinic that provided emergency and primary health care for around 7,000 stranded migrants a year. IOM also provided essential medical equipment and furniture for the clinic.

The facility comprised a well-equipped laboratory, examination room, first aid and treatment room, and a pharmacy. In coordination with Libya's Ministry of Health, specialized healthcare staff were assigned to the centre.

IOM also further provided training on human rights and awareness of the rights and vulnerabilities of irregular migrants to Twaisha staff.

IOM HELPS LIBYAN GOVERNMENT TO
ESTABLISH MIGRATION MANAGEMENT
POLICY TASK FORCE



IOM Libya organized a workshop for Libyan officials to discuss migration management challenges that the country is facing.

The event prioritized actions aimed at developing the country's migration policies and established a policy taskforce that will serve as a forum to continue discussion on further development of Libya's migration management policies.

The workshop saw the attendance of nine ministerial level officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Labour, Interior, Justice and Planning. Participants reviewed and discussed policies and procedures pertaining to migration management themes and mechanisms, including entry visa criteria, residency permit issuance, irregular migration, human trafficking, inter-ministerial and inter-agency cooperation, and international cooperation.

Participants recognized that the development of more comprehensive policies and procedures was a fundamental prerequisite to leveraging potential benefits that enhanced migration management would offer in terms of the rehabilitation of Libya's post-revolution economy.

IOM SUPPORTS LIBYAN OUT-OF-COUNTRY VOTING



2014

IOM helped over 7,000 Libyans in 13 countries to take part in the country's constitutional drafting assembly elections, at the request of the Libyan High National Election Commission (HNEC).

The three-day out-of-country poll, which ran from February 15th – 17th, allowed Libyans in Canada, Egypt, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Malaysia, Qatar, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States to vote in the elections.

IOM worked closely with HNEC advisers and Libyan embassies in target countries to reach out to the Libyan diaspora and encourage voter registration. Of the 7,067 people who registered, roughly two thirds were men and one third were women.

Outreach activities included developing mailing lists; printing and distributing thousands of posters and flyers; holding community Q&A sessions; and engaging other Libyan institutions including schools, student bodies and the business community to disseminate information about the poll.

Accredited observers from international and local organizations were on hand to witness the voting process in all 13 countries.

ESTABLISHMENT OF DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX NETWORK IN LIBYA



2015

Political instability has prevailed in Libya since the 2011 overthrow of the regime, which culminated in the collapse of a fragile central authority accompanied by fragmentation and infighting among various militias. Since then hundreds of thousands of people have been forced to leave their homes and move to safer areas of the country.

IOM estimated that there are also over a million migrants in Libya, of whom approximately 150,000 were affected by the current insecurity.

IDPs and migrants struggle to live a normal life. They have difficulty accessing basic services, including healthcare, food and adequate shelter. Some seek refuge in improvised homes, including garages, unfinished buildings and public buildings. Others stay in host communities with family or friends, or in rented accommodation.

Many children have been out of school, because of the high school fees or unsafe access.

IOM Libya Chief of Mission Othman Belbeisi explained why a DTM programme is needed. "A standard IDP and mobility tracking system was not yet in place in Libya. There was a gap in understanding both the IDP situation, as well as broader trends and patterns related to migration flows through the country. Providing a comprehensive overview and regular updates of the displacement situation is key to identify needs and enable a targeted humanitarian response." IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) system uses a variety of tools and processes to track and monitor population displacement during crises worldwide. The data, which are shared with host governments and the humanitarian community, are used to assess needs and identify priorities.

TRAINING LIBYAN NGOs TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING



IOM Libya hosted a three-day counter trafficking training in Tunis for 26 participants from 12 Libyan NGOs and Libya's Directorate for Combating Illegal Migration.

The project aimed at strengthening the knowledge of NGOs and government authorities involved in combating human trafficking and providing direct assistance to victims.

The training focused on three main topics: trafficking in persons; vulnerability assessment and assisted voluntary return and reintegration. It was the first event of its kind bringing together NGOs and their government counterparts since July 2014.

Participants came from all over Libya, including Tripoli, Benghazi, Sabha, Zwara, and Al-Zawyah, and included NGOs new to the field of counter trafficking.

Despite the crisis in Libya, IOM continued to provide direct assistance to stranded migrants and displaced families inside Libya, including the distribution of non-food aid, hygiene kits and healthcare services delivered through IOM partners on the ground.

TRAINING ON MIGRANT HEALTH CARE ASSESSMENT



IOM Libya organized a three-day training on health care assessment to promote the health of migrants transiting through Morocco, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Yemen, and to assist migrants rescued at sea and internally displaced people in Libya.

The main objective of the training was to support IOM migration management counterparts in the field of promoting the health and welfare of migrants who often leave unprepared for their journey. They often lack food and water and find themselves in vulnerable situations with little access to proper health care.

The 24 participants in the training, included 13 government officials from Libya's Department for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM) and the Libyan Coast Guard; eight health workers from IOM Libya's implementing partners (STACO and IMC); and three IOM doctors.

Speakers from the International Medical Corps, IOM Libya, IOM Tunisia, IOM Morocco, UNSMIL Human Rights and the World Health Organization addressed topics including specific health needs in Libya: health care assessment in detention centres and disembarkation areas; hygiene education and mental health assistance. Participants also collaborated on practical exercises and developed reporting tools.

IOM RESPONDS TO THE SABRATAH CRISIS



2017

In the aftermath of weeks of conflict in the Libyan coastal city of Sabratha, IOM, provided support to more than 14,000 migrants, previously held in numerous informal detention centres and camps and transferred to Zuwara and an assembly point in Sabratha.

Since the outbreak of the crisis 6,700 migrants received core relief packages, which included mattresses, blankets, pillows and hygiene kits at six separate locations and more than 100,000 meals were provided in Zuwara and Sabratha. IOM also responded to the vast health needs and conducted 1,631 medical interventions and treated 23 injury cases. In addition, 21 women received pregnancy care including deliveries, while 476 migrants (250 men, 161 women and 65 children) have received psychosocial support.

On 7 October, a day after the first transfer of migrants, IOM sent a field team to the assembly point in Sabratha to assess the situation. By the end of the day, the team reported that 2,600 migrants (1,819 men, 704 women and 77 children) were being kept at the site by the Libyan Directorate for Combatting Illegal Migration (DCIM).

By 16 October, IOM emergency teams estimated that in total more than 14,000 migrants have been affected.

Whilst the conditions at the two sites were strained with primary needs including drinking water, tents, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), medical and psychosocial support, parallel conditions in the detention centres deteriorated as more migrants continued to arrive.

WORKING ON ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION



2018

IOM, with technical support from the International Detention Coalition (IDC), ran a workshop entitled, Practices and Procedures of Alternatives to Detention in Libya.

Stakeholders from the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Interior (DCIM), the Libyan Coast Guard and embassies of countries of origin of migrants in Libya discussed alternatives to detention in Libya to enhance early identification and protection of vulnerable migrants, particularly for unaccompanied and separated children.

In a context where migrants residing in or transiting through Libya are frequently transferred to detention centres, IOM seeks to promote and operationalize alternatives that allow for a more rights-based and protection-sensitive management of migration flows.

During the workshop, participants discussed practical procedures for identifying and transferring migrants from disembarkation points and detention centres to alternative housing. They put forward concrete recommendations to a draft strategic roadmap on alternatives to detention.

IOM Libya and IDC began co-drafting this roadmap in 2018 to address the arbitrary detention of migrants and identify alternatives to detention.

In partnership with IDC, IOM also briefed the participants on the six-month capacity-building plan on alternatives to detention for Libyan officials and consular authorities. A series of courses will train frontline staff to conduct vulnerability assessments and screen migrants eligible for alternatives.



“WE NEED TO HELP THE GOVERNMENT FIND WAYS TO IMPROVE THE LIVING CONDITIONS FOR THESE MIGRANTS THAT IS ALSO DIGNIFYING FOR THEM. WHEN I SPEAK WITH GOVERNMENT COUNTERPARTS I ALSO BRING UP THE EXAMPLE OF THIS ONE DETENTION CENTER WITHIN TRIPOLI THAT ALLOWS MIGRANTS TO DO LABOR WORK IN A NEARBY NEIGHBORHOOD. IT IS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF INTEGRATING MIGRANTS LOCALLY.”

MOHAMED AL ASKARI - NATIONAL TRAINER ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

ESSENTIAL HUMANITARIAN AID TO COMMUNITIES IN TAWERGHA



IOM, in cooperation with Libya's Ministry of State for Displaced Persons' Affairs and the Local Council of Tawergha delivered essential humanitarian assistance to communities in Tawergha, 200 kilometres southeast of Libya's capital Tripoli, and in the surrounding village of al-Emarat.

After over seven years of insecurity, and subsequent displacement, communities have begun to return to their homes in the surrounding areas. After the return of calm to the area, at least 100 families have permanently returned.

As they began to rebuild their lives, returnees struggled to access basic services. IOM's humanitarian support reached more than 100 families in Tawergha and 88 in nearby al-Emarat.

In its intervention, IOM supplied families with generators, winter blankets, mattresses and hygiene kits, as well as diapers for children.

A combination of awareness raising and psychosocial support (PSS) activities on issues pertaining to the community are being conducted by the IOM's mental health and psychosocial support team in both locations. Additionally, a distribution took place on the same day and included the delivery of handicrafts and knitting material to the community, and musical instruments that were provided to a local NGO which in turn handed over the items for the good benefit of a school.

VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN
RETURN FLIGHTS RESUME
FROM SOUTHERN LIBYA



IOM resumed its Voluntary Humanitarian Return Programme (VHR) in Libya's southern city of Sebha in November 2018. VHR provides support to stranded migrants wishing to return to their home countries. In previous months, IOM has been expanding its outreach in the south through multiple field missions to make VHR operations possible.

The charter, which landed in Lagos, Nigeria, came after IOM's outreach activities with local authorities and Nigerian communities in the south. In close coordination with the Nigerian Embassy in Tripoli, IOM facilitated the provision of online consular support which enabled the embassy to conduct consular authentication and issue travel documents.

The charter carried 120 migrants (75 men, 30 women, 6 children and 9 infants) to Lagos. IOM continued to work closely with the local authorities to ensure they reach all stranded migrants in the south who are interested in VHR assistance. In 2018 IOM provided voluntary humanitarian return assistance to over 16,000 migrants in Libya.

IOM continues to monitor and assess the needs of stranded migrants in southern Libya for the provision of humanitarian assistance, VHR registration, medical care, as well as other pressing needs.



IOM PROGRAMMES



SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES



Mr. Othman El Balbissi

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock
and Marine Resources



on
pit-scale insect”



In creating conditions to help restore normal social and economic life for Libyan communities and migrants, IOM's Community Stabilization programme 'Together We Rebuild' has sought to address drivers of displacement and instability in Sabha and Qatroun since 2016. With expansions to Benghazi and Kufra in 2017, the programme employs a three-pillar approach to restore services and community infrastructure, promote social cohesion and support the regeneration of livelihoods.

Support for the provision of basic services: Protracted conflict has damaged vital infrastructure, while political and violent conflict has hampered the allocation of resources to basic services. Communities face shortages of water; schools and clinics lack critical equipment and need maintenance; water leakages pose environmental and health risks; and protracted electricity cuts obstruct access to basic services.

IOM supports local authorities in delivering basic services for conflict-affected communities through the rehabilitation of infrastructure, including water and waste water systems, schools and dormitories, recreational centers, clinics and playgrounds. Furthermore, IOM provides equipment, such as furniture for schools, medical equipment and generators for clinics, pumps for the water and waste water companies, and equipment to municipal staff to improve their services.

These projects are identified through a community-based process. In 2019, IOM has conducted meetings in the different neighbourhoods of Sabha and Qatroun, where 360 community members from different tribal backgrounds identified needs and worked together to prioritize the most urgent and important projects.

Since the programme inception, IOM has completed 134 quick impact projects (QIP), primarily in Sabha and Qatroun. Among the 18 QIPs completed in 2019 are CS' first projects in Benghazi and Kufra. The Teacher Garden in Benghazi is one of the oldest and most famous public gardens in the Al Blad neighborhood. However, the 2014 conflict caused much destruction to infrastructure in this area. "Before the rehabilitation, this area was filled with dirt and trash, there were many old cars all around it. It was not safe at all for children and families. When we compare it with its current condition, the difference is obvious. It is very clean, safe for families and kids even at nighttime. Most of the host community families who visit this garden are very welcoming and friendly, women from Benghazi engage with migrant women, and the men do the same.", said an IDP from Benghazi. Now the garden has been restored, nearly 12,000 people have access to it, including 2,000 IDPs and migrants from surrounding neighbourhoods.

MIGRATION MANAGEMENT AND COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT



The challenge of improving how migration is handled throughout the country is a massive one that no single agency can accomplish on their own. In order to manage migration in a way that helps Libyans and migrants alike IOM is also involved in building the capacity of the Libyan government through Technical Cooperation. The range of support that IOM provides to the government is wide. Following an assessment in 2017, IOM identified ways it can build capacity through trainings, infrastructure, and equipment. Examples of this can be seen with IOM providing training to government agencies in the areas of first aid, human rights, data management, information management, human trafficking and identifying vulnerable groups. Additionally, IOM helped by developing standard operating procedures for sea rescues and improved coordination mechanisms between relevant agencies involved in these activities.

HELPING PEOPLE RETURN HOME

Migrants in Libya often feel helpless and stranded within the country. Many of them originate from countries that do not have an embassy in Libya meaning that they might not be able to acquire the necessary travel documents in order to return home in a regular manner. IOM helps to address this issue by providing a means of safe and free passage back home in a regular manner, while also assisting with acquiring travel documents needed.

The voluntary humanitarian return programme is one of IOM Libya's key forms of assistance to migrants in need. In addition to helping migrants return home IOM also provides reintegration support. This is achieved in close coordination with IOM's offices in the country of origin and can include providing business and start up grants to give migrants a new chance to rebuild their lives back home.



“I JUST WANT TO GO BACK HOME”

“I just want to go home” says Nasiru. The 30-year-old waits at an IOM office alongside Sheku, 29, and other migrants from Sierra Leone to begin their process to be returned back home. Nasiru and Sheku are not related but share extremely similar experience while in Libya as well as their perilous journey to the North African country. The two have been in Libya for the past two years after leaving their homes and families for better work opportunities abroad. “If I could have found a good job at home I would have stayed,” Nasiru explains, “I have two children and my three-year-old is growing up without his father and he should know him.”

Both recount tales of the dangerous journey across West Africa, crossing borders irregularly and being handed off to several smugglers along the way. “It’s expensive; you have to pay each smuggler before they take you to the next one. I ended up paying \$4,000 to get this far,” explains Sheku.

The men also remember the dangerous part of their journey “At one point, we were in Mali when suddenly we were handed over to a group of Tuareg people who held us ransom and demanded more money. They would beat us if we could not pay. I managed to get enough money to be given off to the next smuggler but not before they flogged my brother to death” Nasiru laments. Sheku’s brother was also beaten to death on his journey through Mali when held ransom by a similar group.

In the past two years, Nasiru made two attempts to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe. His first attempt was intercepted by the Libyan coast guard and brought back to shore whereas his second attempt nearly resulted in a disaster. “There was about 120 of us on the boat when it sank but only 20 of us made it back. The only reason I survived was because I held onto a water jug for over 5 hours before someone found us and rescued us.”

As they wait to be brought back home the two of them think about what their next steps will be. Sheku thinks he will try to open up a shop to sell spare parts for motorcycles whereas Nasiru wants to try to become an advocate to deter other potential irregular migrants for making the same perilous journey as they did.





MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)



Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) is chronically neglected in Libya due to longstanding problems, including underdeveloped community-based and specialized services, a shortage of qualified workforce, lack of facilities, and social stigma towards people with mental illness. The situation for migrants and refugees is of particular concern. The MHPSS caseload includes persons with psychological distress due to the precarious living conditions in Libya and individuals with mental disorders e.g. depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, and psychosomatic problems.

PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND CORE RELIEF ITEMS

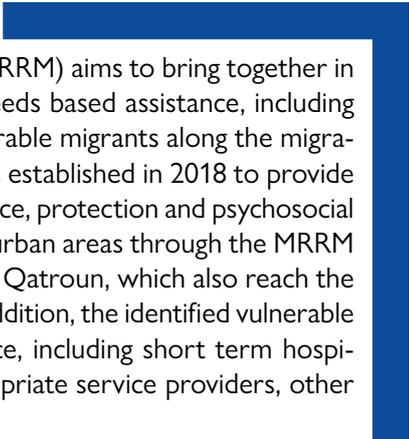


Whether it is in detention centers, city centers, or places where migrants are disembarked, IOM works to ensure that migrants and IDPs receive some form of assistance. One of the most common forms of assistance is the provision of non-food items such as mattresses, blankets, and hygiene items. As IDPs and migrants struggle to maintain a normal life, they have difficulty accessing basic services, including healthcare, food and adequate shelter. Some seek refuge in improvised homes, including garages, unfinished buildings and public buildings. Others stay in host communities with family or friends, or in rented accommodation.



MIGRANTS RESOURCE AND RESPONSE MECHANISM





Migrants Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM) aims to bring together in one mechanism a wide range of services and needs based assistance, including protection and humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants along the migratory routes. Through this action, the MRRM was established in 2018 to provide direct assistance (food and NFIs), medical assistance, protection and psychosocial support services to migrants in distress living in urban areas through the MRRM mobile teams in Zwara, Bani Waleed, Sabha and Qatroun, which also reach the migrants living in neighbouring municipalities. In addition, the identified vulnerable migrants are provided with specialized assistance, including short term hospitalization, counselling through referrals to appropriate service providers, other IOM units i.e. VHR, and local NGOs.



MRRM has strategically established its team along the major migratory routes, where there is a scarcity of the humanitarian actors and lack of resources to assist migrants in need. Services that MRRM provides are lifesaving and life sustaining and offer access to alternative options, such as Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR). Through IOM's sensitization activities provided to migrants and other local stakeholders as well as information campaign on the dangers of irregular migration and its outreach activities, migrants are better informed on the migration realities in Libya and are able to make an informed decision.



Through this mechanism, in 2019, IOM MRRM reached 3,851 migrants in four targeted locations with large concentrations of migrants. Their main nationalities were Niger, Chad, Nigeria, Sudan, Egypt and Mali.

PROVISION OF HEALTH ASSISTANCE





The risky and complex journeys undertaken by migrants, reaching Libya and beyond, expose them as well as host communities to multiple health risks, which are augmented when migrants are detained, while rescued at sea or captured from the communities. In response,

IOM performs routine medical visits to migrant detention centers to determine if there are any cases that require immediate attention for follow-up care. These visits also make sure that the most vulnerable including youth, elderly, and expecting mothers are receiving the treatment and potential life-saving care that they need.

IOM's medical staff is also present at disembarkation points where urgent cases may be found and require immediate medical assistance. The health staff not only rise to the occasion in difficult times of delivering assistance but also go beyond what is asked of them. "We have had instances where our doctors have donated their own blood to migrants that were in need," recalls Othman, Chief of Mission to Libya.

Another fellow colleague recounts another instance of the medical team going beyond the call of duty to provide assistance "One time, we had planned to go and provide health assistance to people in need that were located in the southern part of the country when suddenly there was a security incident which had temporarily shut down the airport for staff to fly there. The health team was not deterred by this and they bought themselves bus tickets and drove several hours to reach there anyways to provide health assistance."

Ensuring that medical needs are met for such a potentially vast group of people is a large undertaking, which IOM accomplishes by collaborating with the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as the Ministry of health, to build upon the current capacities of public health professionals and other implementing partners present within the country.



“WE DO THIS JOB BECAUSE HELPING OTHERS AND PUTTING A SMILE ON PEOPLES’ FACES MOTIVATES US. WE WORK HERE AS A TEAM AND DO OUR BEST TO ALLEVIATE THE SUFFERING THAT MIGRANTS GO THROUGH WHILE STRANDED HERE. SO WE DECIDED TO DONATE OUR BLOOD TO DO OUR PART.”

MOHAMED ZARROUK AND SHAREEF ALOWA - DA FIELD TEAM

DTM



UTILIZING DATA TO UNDERSTAND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Libya is a geographically vast country with several regions that are difficult to access. In order to understand the full scope of humanitarian assistance that is needed throughout the country, IOM established the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) programme in 2016 in order to provide a common operating picture concerning the movement of populations in Libya, allowing humanitarian actors to provide timely assistance to those in need.

Through its mobility tracking, flow monitoring and needs assessment activities, DTM Libya has established itself as data hub for quantitative data on migratory flows to and within Libya, migrant presence in Libya disaggregated by nationality and area, as well as humanitarian needs of migrants, internally displaced population and returnees. All activities are implemented through periodical bi-monthly data collection cycles, allowing trend analysis over time to provide evidence-base for both policy-level discussions and to guide humanitarian action. As of June 2019, DTM has tracked over 268,629 IDPs, 444,760 returnees and 641,398 migrants present in Libya.

In order to facilitate humanitarian interventions, DTM works closely with IOM's other programmes through referring identified populations in need of assistance at flow monitoring points to IOM's Direct Assistance, Health, Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR), Protection and Migrant Rapid Response Mechanism (MRRM) programmes. Furthermore, DTM Libya supports other humanitarian partners through providing emergency tracking updates to OCHA and humanitarian sectors in case of sudden population movements as well as facilitating humanitarian assessments for the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) jointly implemented by IOM, UNICEF, WFP and UNFPA, and acts as interlocutor with Libyan communities across the country for subsequent distributions.

DTM Libya has also been rolling out technical assistance related to information management activities for Government Ministries in order to strengthen in-country capacity and gradually transfer data collection activities to national systems.





PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE

Throughout the country there are thousands of internally displaced persons and migrants in need of assistance and among them are persons who are considered vulnerable and require special assistance. IOM is active in identifying these particular caseloads and following up with support. Often times such cases can be found in detention centers or in communities that have been deeply affected by ongoing conflicts. Sometimes, the needs of some of these caseloads goes beyond in-kind assistance such as the need for psychosocial support for those who have undergone severely traumatic experiences. In the previous year, IOM began to conduct joint counselling with UNHCR for Somali nationals concerned with protection issues when returning back home. As IOM continues to work providing assistance to migrants within detention centers, it also continues to work with the government in advocating for alternative systems to detention centers such as developing a community housing system providing a safe spaces for migrants.



“IT’S A DAILY WORK COMING DOWN HERE TO THESE DETENTION CENTERS, EVERY DAY YOU MEET NEW MIGRANTS WITH NEW CASES AND NEW STORIES AND YOU JUST HOPE THAT YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU CAN TO HELP THEM. I REMEMBER ONE TIME WE MANAGED TO REUNITE A FAMILY THAT WAS SPREAD ACROSS THREE DETENTION CENTERS AND ON THE STREETS OF TRIPOLI. IT WAS A LOT OF WORK PIECING EVERYTHING TOGETHER BUT WHEN YOU ACTUALLY SAW THE WHOLE FAMILY BEING REUNITED AT THE AIRPORT AND SEEING ALL OF THOSE EMOTIONS POUR OUT OF EVERYONE, IT REMINDS YOU WHY YOU DO THIS KIND OF WORK.”

TAREK GHWELA - PROTECTION CASE WORKER

A photograph of two individuals in an outdoor, sandy environment. The person on the left is wearing a green hoodie and carrying a cardboard box on their head. The person on the right is wearing a black hoodie and carrying a cardboard box on their head. They are both holding a large white bag between them. The background shows a sandy area with some greenery and trees in the distance. A large blue vertical bar is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text 'SO FAR IN 2019' in white capital letters.

SO FAR IN 2019

VOLUNTARY HUMANITARIAN RETURN



Under the Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR) programme, IOM enabled 5,118 migrants to voluntarily return home in a safe and dignified manner while ensuring that relevant international and internal procedures are in place, particularly when dealing with vulnerable cases, such as women, unaccompanied and separated children, elderly and persons with medical and special needs. In addition, with IOM's reintegration support, 1,367 returned migrants were able to re-establish their lives in their countries of origin, make a living for themselves, while again being part of social, cultural, economic and political spheres of society.

DIRECT ASSISTANCE



With the provision of direct assistance, in 2019, IOM supported 34,368 individuals to cover their basic NFI and food needs alleviate their suffering in the immediate aftermath of the crisis, especially the conflict that erupted in Tripoli in April. In an emergency context, the provision of such assistance is life sustaining with an immediate impact.

MIGRANTS RESOURCE AND RESPONSE MECHANISM



To reach migrants in need in areas facing scarcity of humanitarian assistance, IOM established Migrants Resource and Response Mechanism (MRRM) to help migrants along the major migratory routes with NFIs, medical assistance, protection and psychosocial support, while offering alternative options, such as the voluntary humanitarian return. Through this mechanism, 3,851 migrants received the required assistance while transiting through Libya in harsh and hazardous conditions. Furthermore, with IOM's sensitization activities and information campaign on the dangers of irregular migration, migrants are better informed on the migration realities in Libya and are able to make an informed decision on their onward journey.

HEALTH



During the risky and complex journeys, reaching Libya and beyond, migrants face a series of challenges exposing them and the host communities to multiple health risks, which are augmented when migrants are detained, while rescued at sea or captured from the communities. IOM has been providing primary health care to thousands of migrants both in detention and urban areas, IDPs and other conflict-affected population. IOM's health interventions are crucial and often life-saving, as for example in cases of armed attacks. When the detention centre in Tajoura was hit by airstrikes in early July, IOM was one of the first humanitarian actors on the ground ensuring that injured migrants receive immediate medical support, including by providing transfers to the hospitals and private clinics.

PROTECTION





Protection of the most vulnerable migrants is crucial in the context such as Libya. IOM works to ensure that migrants requiring specialized assistance as well as mental health and psychosocial support are appropriately supported while alleviating suffering and maintaining human dignity. At the same time, IOM works to find alternatives to detention for vulnerable migrants, including by offering shelter in host families. In 2019, 190 migrants were relieved to be able to move from detention into a safe shelter with regular access to food and water as they start rebuilding their lives.



PROMOTING STABILITY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



LABOUR MIGRATION



To advance the integration of migrants in the labour market, IOM is facilitating bilateral labour agreements between Libya and major origin countries. This will continue to establish, build upon and foster relationships between the Libyan government and the main countries of origin for labour migration to Libya. These agreements will assist in promoting regional integration and to play a pivotal role in controlling the flow of irregular, promote migration and development linkages and facilitate in the protection of rights and promote the welfare of migrant workers. IOM also supports livelihood of migrants, displaced population and host communities through grants utilized by local civil societies focusing on entrepreneurship/business development and skill training initiatives.

COMMUNITY STABILIZATION



IOM's Community Stabilization programme 'Together we Rebuild' contributed to the revitalization of social, cultural and economic life for Libyan communities and migrants. Years of conflict have severely impacted the communities, local infrastructure, provision of basic services and livelihood opportunities. IOM supported these communities through various projects addressing their needs and bringing divided communities together. For example, with rehabilitation of public infrastructure and provision of equipment, children in Sabha are now able to go back to a rehabilitated school that is safe and suitable for children. In Qatroun, local community can now use newly rehabilitated safe football fields for sports activities as well as social gatherings bringing the community closer together. In Kufra, a new health services vehicle provided by IOM will significantly improve the urgent transportation of medical cases in this sharply divided community.



IMPROVING BORDER-MANAGEMENT AND SAVING LIVES AT SEA



TC/IBM/SAR



*Technical cooperation/Immigration and border management/Search and rescue

With the high frequency and volume of crossings into and out of Libya, the border management authorities experience difficulties related to availability of adequate training, infrastructure and equipment that would enable them to handle the current major cross-border flows of migrants and control thousands of kilometres of remote desert border. With IOM's support in the form of specialized equipment and capacity building, national border management authorities are able to better manage migration flows, while addressing the vulnerabilities and needs of migrants, especially in cases of victims of trafficking, and smuggling.

When migrants travelling on unseaworthy boats are rescued at sea by the Libyan Coast Guard, it is crucial they are provided with at least basic services once disembarked. With rehabilitation of disembarkation points, rescued migrants have access to water and sanitation facilities. In addition, with IOM's provision of a small clinic medical teams are able to carry out the medical screening and basic lifesaving activities upon disembarkation.

Authorities involved in Search and Rescue (SAR) operations have a crucial role in assisting migrants in distress both during the rescue as well as upon disembarkation. IOM thus worked to enhance the knowledge of the authorities involved in SAR operations on topics, such as first aid and foreign languages. This improved participants' communication skills and ability to reduce initial distress of people being returned from the sea, and in this way better understanding their needs.



PROVIDING KNOWLEDGE TOOLS FOR
HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLANNING
AND EVIDENCE-BASED POLICIES



DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX



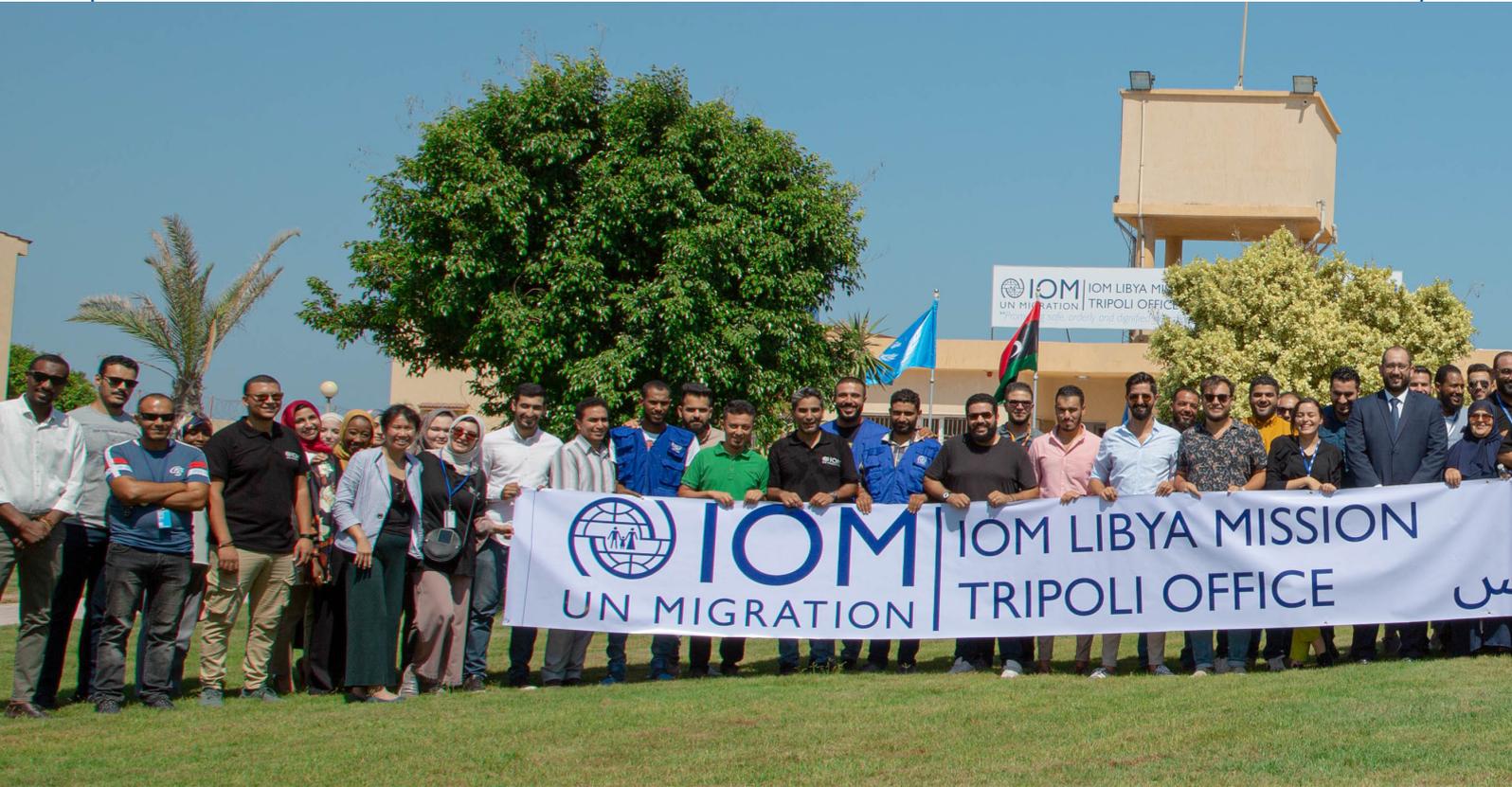
Through IOM DTM's timely information packages on locations and evolving needs of displaced populations, IOM and humanitarian actors are able to respond to sudden population movements, as well as contribute to policy discussions and longer-term humanitarian response planning. During the Tripoli crisis that began in April 2019, DTM took a leading role in facilitating humanitarian interventions, allowing the migrants and people in distress to receive immediate assistance and support. DTM has been providing support to the national stakeholders, in particular local municipalities so they can strengthen their capacity to provide services to residents.

RESEARCH



IOM's Research programme has strengthened the trust-building process with national stakeholders for the establishment and expansion of a network of local and international researchers and experts, academia and policy makers working on migration in Libya. To this end, a technical discussion on how to support the authorities and respond to knowledge gaps through researches aligned to governmental priorities was initiated. This led to the endorsement of all the studies designed and developed by IOM Research, along with the designation of a governmental focal point for the activities, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

OPENING OF THE NEW OFFICE IN TRIPOLI, LIBYA





1 NO POVERTY



Migration can be an effective poverty reduction tool for migrants and their families and can make significant contributions to development efforts in both countries of origin and destination

2 ZERO HUNGER



Food insecurity can be a driver of migration for individuals and their families

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Addressing the health and well-being of migrants is a precondition for social and economic development



5 GENDER EQUALITY



Migration can be a source of empowerment for women and girls, but they can also be especially vulnerable to violence, sexual abuse and exploitation

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Water scarcity and related issues may impact on living standards, food availability and health which in turn can be drivers of migration

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Migrants can transfer valuable knowledge and skills to their countries of origin and destination, helping to support technology development, research and innovation

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Effective migration governance is vital for safer, more orderly and regular migration

Migration governance will be essential for the achievement of all SDGs **and is affected by all areas and therefore relevant to ALL** SDGs. Migration is a global phenomenon affecting all countries worldwide and its effective management requires 'global partnerships and better global government' and a 'whole-of-government' approach. We want to make the most of migration.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Migration can be a potential climate change adaptation strategy and a way to build resilience

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Combating marine and coastal ecosystem degradation and diversifying the livelihoods of communities that are dependent on marine resources can help address forced displacement and migration

15 LIFE ON LAND



Deforestation, land degradation, desertification and biodiversity loss can have profound impacts on communities whose livelihoods rely on natural resources and can be drivers of migration

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Education can facilitate migrant children's socio-economic integration and improve their livelihoods as adults

Migration and the 2030 Agenda

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Inexpensive and alternative energy solutions can benefit vulnerable or displaced communities with limited or no access to electricity

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Decent jobs and safe and secure work environments for migrants are essential if they are to become productive members of society and contribute to economic growth



be a success factor for
Gs. **Migration affects**
areas of governance and is
all 17 SDGs. Migration is a
affecting all countries
governance needs
both a 'whole-of-
of-society' approach if
of its benefits.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Migrants help cities to thrive and become more vibrant, successful centres of economy and life

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns can help to protect migrant workers from exploitation

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Stronger, more transparent and accountable institutions and improved access to justice can help to protect and promote migrants' rights

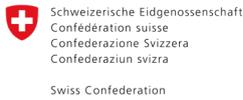


17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Timely, reliable and comparable data on migration can help policy makers devise evidence-based policies and plans to address the migration aspects of the SDGs

THANK YOU





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