



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES



WFP distribution in Derna, Libya. ©LIBAID

# WFP Libya Floods Response External Situation Report 1

17 September 2023

## SITUATION UPDATE

**Libya was devastated by Storm Daniel on 10 September**, causing severe weather conditions, including strong winds and sudden heavy rainfall affecting northeastern areas of the country. Infrastructure was severely damaged; road networks were obstructed and the telecommunications network was disrupted.

**Two ageing dams burst in Derna, sweeping away entire neighbourhoods** and wrecking homes in multiple coastal towns. To date, it is feared that over 5,000 may have died in the disaster and more than 9,000 are unaccounted for. WHO sources reported a total of 3,950 registered deaths in hospitals. Numbers of fatalities are likely to increase as the full extent of the loss of life and damage become known.

**Derna is reported to be the most affected** but also Benghazi, Tobruk, Toukra, Talmeitha, Almarj, Taknes (AlJabal Al Akhdar), Al Owailia, Bayada, Albayda, Shahhat and Sousa.

**Over 40,000 vulnerable people are estimated to be displaced** in the aftermath of the storm, seeking safety, shelter and basic services. In Derna, out of a population of over 150,000, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) indicated that the number of displaced individuals exceeds the 30,000 initially counted. Displaced families are reportedly hosted by relatives in safer neighbourhoods or sheltered in schools lacking non-food items which exposes them to heightened protection risks.

**Pressing food needs:** Destroyed bridges and blocked roads have severely disrupted local food supply chains, hampering access to markets and causing food shortages. The provision of ready-to-eat meals, dry rations, and nutritional supplements for infants and young children is essential to prevent malnutrition. Lack of updated reliable data on the impact of the floods across affected areas due to access challenges delays much-needed relief efforts.

As search and rescue operations are ongoing, **a UN Flash appeal was launched with a budget of USD 71.4 million targeting 250,000 flood-affected people** out of 884,000 people estimated to be in need, over the next three months. The aim is to provide an integrated, multisectoral response to comprehensively assist families, rehabilitate and prevent further loss of life.

## IN NUMBERS



**100K**

people targeted by WFP over 3 months



**9K+**

flood-affected people assisted



**\$6.5M**

WFP funding requirements



**884K**

People in need  
([UN Flash Appeal](#))

## WFP RESPONSE

As the storm catastrophic impact unfolds, WFP is ramping up its emergency response in Libya, in partnership with LibAid, **reaching over 9,000 affected people with food assistance** so far:

**3,500 affected people** (700 households) across four locations **in Derna**

**2,500 people** (500 households) in **Sousa area**.

**2,145 affected individuals** (429 households) across 16 locations in **Benghazi** including those who were displaced from Derna

**1,015 individuals** (203 households) in **Taknis** and 170 individuals (34 households) in **Al-Kharoba**, in **Al-Marj region**.

Affected people received dry rations (rice, pasta, wheat flour, beans, sugar, tomato paste and fortified vegetable oil) to cover their food needs for 15 days.

WFP is currently using its contingency food stocks in Benghazi and procuring additional ready to eat food locally and regionally to meet the rising needs. Forty mt of high-energy biscuits are being airlifted today from Dubai.

To strengthen the humanitarian's community capacity, WFP is also **expanding the UN hub it currently manages in Benghazi** to offer additional accommodation, office space and common services to all humanitarian actors.

While accessibility remains a constraint, WFP is augmenting its staff capacities and relocating additional staff to Benghazi to support the emergency response. WFP logistics and engineering expertise are mobilized to assess and mitigate the impact of roads obstruction to ensure reaching those furthest behind.

The icon consists of two overlapping circles. The left circle is white and contains a blue cloud shape with three arrows pointing upwards and outwards from its top. The right circle is light blue and contains a blue server rack icon with two horizontal arrows pointing in opposite directions (one right, one left) above and below it.

WFP **requires a total of USD 6.5 million** to swiftly scale up its flood response. Ahead of the storm, WFP has been assisting more than 52,000 people in Libya monthly with in-kind food and cash assistance, including displaced people and people of concern in urban areas, while supporting the Government's capacity in areas of resilience-building activities such as school feeding.

An Inter-Agency Rapid Needs Assessment was deployed on 16 September to assess the needs in AlBayda, Derna, Shahat and Soussa, with the participation of WFP team. Hospitals, markets and temporary shelter sites are being visited by the assessment teams.

WFP GIS teams are working closely with The United Nations Satellite Centre (UNOSAT) and Earth Observatory of Singapore, WFP partners, to assess the magnitude of the crisis through an analysis of the latest available satellite imagery for the region to estimate the number of exposed populations.

**Libya**  
Storm Daniel | Affected Areas - 15 September 2023

**Legend**

- Sub Office
- WFP Warehouse
- WFP Assistance Distribution Point
- Affected Populated Places
  - Extremely Affected
  - Severely Affected
  - Affected
- International Airport
- Domestic Airport
- Airstrip
- Sea Port
- Road Status
  - Passable/Undamaged
  - Passable with restrictions/Damaged
  - Not Passable

**Data sources:**  
 Administrative Divisions: WFP/SALB  
 Affected Areas: WFP Libya CD / IOM DTM - Flash Update 2  
 Airports: WFP - Ports: WFP - Roads Status: LogCluster  
 WFP Facilities: WFP

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the maps do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of WFP concerning the legal or constitutional status of any country, territory, city or sea, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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