

Highlights

Between 9-11 September, Storm Daniel hit Libyan coastal cities, with severe weather conditions including unprecedented rainfall causing flooding, particularly in the eastern region. Around 4,000 deaths have been registered according to the World Health Organization, including 150 Sudanese who are believed to be refugees and asylum-seekers, while more than 9,000 are still missing in Derna alone. Over 40,000 people have been displaced across northeastern Libya according to IOM, though these figures are likely to be higher due to access challenges and limited data collection in the worst-affected areas, such as Derna, where at least 30,000 people have been displaced. Of around 50,000 refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR in Libya, more than 1,000 live in eastern Libya. However, UNHCR is aware of larger numbers of forcibly



Interagency mission in Derna. ©UNHCR



NFIs being shipped from Tripoli to Benghazi. ©UNHCR

displaced people from Sudan, Syria and other nationalities who were not registered with UNHCR living in the affected areas. UNHCR is directly contacting registered refugees and asylum-seekers in those areas and reaching out through its website and social media accounts with basic information on available services.

UNHCR has been responding to Storm Daniel by conducting field assessments and providing humanitarian assistance. On 13 September UNHCR distributed hygiene kits to 64 displaced families (295 individuals) in a school hosting Tawerghan IDPs evacuated from an IDP settlement in Benghazi, due to the storm.

From 14 September onwards, UNHCR distributed non-food items (NFIs) to 1,200 IDPs in Derna, including blankets, hygiene kits, soaps, jerry cans, kitchen sets, tarpaulins through partner LibAid. Dispatching of NFIs is ongoing from Tripoli to Benghazi to increase capacity to respond. UNHCR is also dispatching medicines, rub halls, and power generators to affected locations. On 15 and 16 September, UNHCR participated in a joint interagency UN assessment mission to Derna, Soussa, Shahat and Al-Baydha, with the aim of assessing needs and preparing a response. The mission met with local officials and visited various sites including the field hospital in Derna. On 19 September, an aircraft carrying 53 metric tons of relief items arrived from the global stockpile in Dubai, with goods for 10,000 people. In addition, medicine for 10,000 people dispatched from Tripoli and arrived in Benghazi on 21 September.



Aircraft landing in Benghazi with relief items. ©UNHCR

Furthermore, UNHCR is monitoring the situation of families displaced from Derna to various locations in Tripoli, coordinating to streamline the response with local authorities and other humanitarian actors on the ground. UNHCR is planning to distribute 2,000 children's school kits to address immediate needs.

On 30 August, UNHCR facilitated the visit of the Secretary General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement Robert Piper and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General Georgette Gagnon to Garyounis Teertha IDPs settlement in Benghazi. The mission met with community representatives and discussed the constraints they are facing to return to their place of origin such as including shelter, infrastructure, health, security, and lack of income-generating activities. A meeting was also held with Benghazi municipality officials to discuss displacement issues in Benghazi as the city is hosting the biggest number of IDPs and returnees in Libya.



125,802 Libyans currently internally displaced (IDPs)¹



431 monitoring visits to detention centres so far in 2023



705,426 IDP returnees¹



236 refugees and asylum-seekers were transferred from detention to urban setting so far in 2023



49,713 registered refugees and asylum-seekers²



644 vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers have departed¹

¹ IOM-DTM Aug 2023. ² Data as of 1 September 2023

On 13 September, a ceremony was held to mark the completion of the rehabilitation works at Traghen School for Girls in Traghen (more than 900 km south of Tripoli). Around 1,000 students, including IDPs and asylum-seekers, will benefit from the project implemented by partner ACTED. The work, which was part of UNHCR's Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), included enhancement of WASH facilities, electrical works, installing new doors and windows, renovating indoor spaces, and general repair. QIPs are implemented in consultation with national and local authorities, and the active participation of local communities, aiming to strengthen the existing facilities and services in a participatory manner. **Similarly, on 27 August, another QIP was handed over, which is Abdulkareem Jibreel School for in Derna.** Around 400 students, many of them are IDP returnees, will benefit from the project.

In August, an agreement was reached between the Libyan and Tunisian Ministries of Interior to address the border situation. The agreement stipulated that the two countries will take responsibility of people stranded in the border area. As a result, stranded migrants and refugees were evacuated from the Libyan-Tunisian border and were distributed to shelters in Tunisia and DCIM detention centres in Libya. **UNHCR and partner IRC conducted a distribution of hygiene kits and blankets to more than 350 individuals in Abusliem DC on 21 August, and to 2,010 detainees in Ain Zara DC on 31 August.** A total of 1,647 people were rescued at the border area by Libyan authorities since June. 28 dead bodies have been retrieved, while over 80 individuals are reported missing.

Population Movements

So far in 2023, more than 10,900 individuals have been reported as rescued or intercepted by the Libyan authorities in more than 100 operations. Of those disembarked, the largest groups were from Bangladesh, Egypt, and Syria, while the nationality of the vast majority remained unrecorded due to the late notification of the disembarkation or lack of access to disembarkation points for UNHCR and partner IRC. Of the individuals who were recorded, 90 per cent were men, 7 per cent women, and 3 per cent children.

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USD **70.0** M required for 2023

