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Country card

Libya





General data of the country

a. General Data

Country	Lybia	Tunisia	France
Population	6,7M ¹	11 694 719	69 059 887
HDI	0,708	0,739	0,891
IHDI	N.A	0,585	0,809
Maternal mortality	77	69	10
Gender-related Development Index	0,93	0,9	0,98
Gini Index	N.A	32,8	31,6
Population under UNHCR mandate ²	932,204 ³ Persons of Concern ⁴	3746	368 352
Fragile state index	95,2	74,2	30,5
INFORM Index	6.6	6	2,2
Net ODA	303,2	805,27	0

b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Not joined
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Not joined
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Signed (2008), ratified (2018)

¹ United Nations. "[World Population Prospects 2019](#)".

² <http://popstats.unhcr.org/en/overview>

³ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/GDI>

⁴ Libya Humanitarian Needs Overview 2020 (January 2020)



d. Geopolitical analysis

General Context

Libya in 2020 remains a vastly fragmented country, 'ruled' by two different authorities in West and East and disputed by a multitude of armed groups. Since the resumption of hostilities in 2014, over half a million people have been displaced, and by 2018 the conflict has claimed more than 4,400 civilian lives⁵. The civilian population is not only impacted by the criminalization of armed groups and the armed conflict but by the collapse of an official economy and the development of a shadow war economy. In addition, the overall number of migrants, asylum seekers refugees in Libya is estimated to 977,000⁶. In 2016, revenues generated by human trafficking in Libya reached around \$978 million; a sum equivalent to 3.4% of the country's GDP in 2015⁷.

Multiple actors scramble for power in today's Libya: armed groups; "city-states", particularly in western and southern Libya, and tribes. The presence and influence of Islamic State (IS) has decreased significantly over the course of 2019 and early 2020, with repeated efforts from East and West to eradicate all affiliated armed groups. Nevertheless, IS fighters are still present on Libyan soil, waiting for any favorable opportunity to re-establish themselves. Despite intense international efforts, the prospects for normalization are still hampered by the respective armed group's political agenda, the appetite of local feuds for predation economy and the interference of external actors into the conflict. Eight years after Muammar Gaddafi's fall, the political and military landscape of Libya is deeply fractured, with a self-declared government in the East and an internationally recognized one in the West, each backed by coalitions of former rebels and militias. The pillaging of the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) state funds – a hallmark of western Libya's political economy – now benefits a narrower group than at any previous point since the 2011 civil war.

In Tripolitania, the Presidential Council (PC), under the authority of Fayez al Sarraj, and the GNA result from the Libyan Political Agreement (LPA) signed under the auspices of the United Nations in Morocco in 2015. Based in Tripoli like the GNA, the High Council of State (HCS), a divisive consultative and institutional body, was designed to include members from the 2012 legislature and still has a power of nuisance. Officially, the GNA has not been endorsed as stipulated within the LPA by the House of Representatives (HoR), a second institutional body based in the east of the Libya. The GNA exercises relative authority over Tripoli, Misrata and parts of southern Libya. The LPA was signed for a two-year term and expired on 17th December, 2017. Despite the UN's efforts to amend it, the current legal vacuum weakens the GNA vis-à-vis its opponents from the East.

⁵ <https://aoav.org.uk/explosiveviolence/libya/>

⁶ IOM : <https://dtm.iom.int/libya>

⁷ <https://www.chathamhouse.org/sites/default/files/publications/research/2018-04-12-libyas-war-economy-eaton-final.pdf>



Recent events (2019-2020)

On 4 April 2019 the LNA launched a surprise military offensive to take control of West and Tripoli. Intense fights went on for months, forcing the GNA to withdraw into the suburbs of Tripoli and holding on a thin coastal strip connecting Tripoli to Misrata. At the end of 2019, while the situation seemed increasingly desperate for GNA, Turkey, a long time backup for GNA, greatly reinforced its support, bringing important military means (in particular anti-aircraft capabilities), equipment and funds, and facilitating the arrival of troops (essentially Syrian mercenaries). This support was a true game changer and allowed a major rebalancing in the conflict, seeing the GNA regaining during April and May 2020 much of the lost ground. In the summer of 2020, the front line stabilized on both sides of Sirt (which remains under LNA control). As a response to this reinforced support from Turkey, Egypt stepped in as well, siding more officially with LNA and warning GNA that they will not allow any troop going beyond Sirt, with a threat of heavy military response from Egyptian Army.

Despite this apparent stabilization of the conflict, the situation in the main cities has worsened on nearly all levels. Health services are overstretched the Covid-19 pandemic, power cuts and water shortage are now happening daily, as essential are becoming increasingly expensive and less available. Militias are regaining power and contributing to a high level of insecurity, particularly in Tripoli and Benghazi. Faced with this situation and the lack of control by the official authorities, the Libyan population, which is suffering more and more, no longer hesitates to openly state its discontent and regularly demonstrates in the streets of the capital and the main cities of the country.

The priority for the UN Mission in Libya is still to reach a durable ceasefire, organise a national conference and then prepare for possible elections. However, the resignation of UN special envoy, Ghassan Salamé, in March 2020, sounds like a symbol of the powerlessness of UN diplomacy to achieve any tangible results. He has still not been replaced to this day. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said early July 2020 that foreign interference in the Libya conflict has reached "unprecedented levels," with sophisticated equipment and increased involvement of mercenaries and foreign fighters.



HI Team and intervention areas

The HI Libya program has 87 member staff.

Libya



No

change in area of intervention



Summary of HI presence in the country

HI has been operational continuously in Libya since 2011, and up until the end of 2014 delivered a large-scale Humanitarian Mine Action (HMA) programme from bases in Tripoli, Misrata and Sirte. During that period, HI teams protected countless civilians from the risk of death and injury due to explosive hazards through the clearance of over 30² km of land, including schools, agricultural land, beaches and residential areas; removing and destroying over 112,000 mines and ERW in the process. More than 1,000 people were trained to deliver mine/ERW/SALW risk education; whilst HI teams reached more than 110,000 civilians with life-saving risk education messaging.

With the outbreak of renewed violence in 2014 and the delocalisation of international staff to Tunisia, HI redesigned its programme in support of persons injured by mines, ERW and SALW, as well as persons with disabilities more widely. In the last three years, HI has delivered health and protection services including physical therapy, provision of assistive devices and mobility equipment and psychosocial support to over 4,000 persons directly impacted by the ongoing crisis, as well as targeting health and rehabilitation centres in Western and eastern Libya with technical capacity development and donations of much needed and otherwise depleted equipment. In 2017 HI relaunched risk education activities in the Nafusa Mountain region, south of Tripoli for returning populations displaced since 2011.

In the same year HI initiated support to the LibMAC for enhancing assistance to victims of explosive hazards, through bringing together national authorities and civil society to raise awareness of the collective responsibility towards persons directly affected by conflicts.

At the end of 2018 HI opened a new office in eastern Libya, in Benghazi where it developed also Health and protection activities in synergy with the West part of Libya. HI has also developed a longer term strategy of support to Mental Health for Libyan institutions, professionals, CSOS and populations suffering from more severe mental health disorders, in an effort to contribute to a better resilience of Libyan population.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Main sector of intervention	Objective of project in the sector	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and Donors funding it
Health & Protection	To provide the vulnerable, conflict-affected IDPs, returnees and host community in Libya, with improved access to basic needs, health and protection services (focusing on physical and psychological impairments).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical and functional rehabilitation and PSS services through HI outreach teams at home and in fixed points• Guidance, advice and PSS services to caregivers through HI outreach teams at home and in fixed points.• Provision of assistive devices• Awareness to implementing partner's staff and community focal points sensitized on identification of vulnerable persons	3,440 persons with disabilities/injuries 30 victims of conventional weapons / IED		Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Health	Greater Tripoli, Benghazi & Misrata	ECHO: 01/02/2020 to 31/01/2021 UNHCR: 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of tailored referrals to other external actors • Dissemination of information on available services in Tripoli, Misrata Benghazi 					
Health & Protection	Promoting inclusive access to quality health services in Misrata	<p>(HI Part only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need assessment, selection, Procurement & Installment of equipment and supplies to selected health facilities • Assess capacity of staff and develop a training plan • Provide a comprehensive and t tailored package (incl. on the job training) to reinforce quality of rehab cares • Awareness raising on inclusive access to health services. 	5,082 direct beneficiaries (locals, migrants, IDPs, refugees) 32 health facilities' staff trained 100 key community members	256,250 community members, migrants and IDPs	International Rescue Committee (Lead) MoH	Misrata	AICS 01/05/2020 to 01/04/2021
Health	Improve Access and Quality of Health Care Services in Libya (AMAL)	<p><u>Access to Mental Health Care</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to mental health services • MHPSS community intervention (individual and group) 	2,000 individuals suffering from mental health disorders/psychosocial disabilities for specialised services		IP: Nebras (Tunisian NGO) Libyan MoH	Greater Tripoli, Benghazi & Misrata	DevCO: 21/12/2018 to 21/12/2021 (36 months)



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness and prevention <p><u>Improvement of Mental Health Care</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building and supervision of MH staff • Capacity building and supervision of MH staff • Assessment of quality of services <p><u>Development of a mental health curriculum</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of MH training diploma • MoU on promotion of clinical & community MH services • Sensitization sessions on promotion of MH carriers 	1,000 persons suffering from mental health disorders and their caregivers benefitting from MHPSS community intervention		University of Tunis Libyan MoE Libyan Board of Medical Specialties		
Health & Protection	Enhancing the development of a culture of peace, cooperation and responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical capacity building and supervision of civil society organizations on MHPSS service provision at community level • Small-scale grant support to civil society organizations to deliver MHPSS services at community level 			Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Health	Greater Tripoli, Benghazi & Misrata	UNDP: 15/07/2020 to 14/07/2021



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Protection	Emergency risk education in response to threats by explosive devices in Tripoli	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Context analysis• Deployment and training of HI Risk Education team• Development of Information, Education and Communication materials• Delivery of direct Risk Education sessions to conflict-affected populations• Development of adapted training and awareness materials• Training on inclusion, referrals mechanism and Psychosocial First Aid for 20 First Responders	4590 individuals 20 of first responders (Gov and INGO staffs such as deminers)	169,000 people in need living in areas in Tripoli region	LibMAC	Greater Tripoli	Ministry of Foreign Affairs Luxembourg: 01/11/2020 to 30/04/2021
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Donors

<p>ECHO</p>  <p>Funded by European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid</p>	<p>EU</p> 	<p>UNDP</p> 
<p>UNHCR</p>  <p>The UN Refugee Agency</p>	<p>USAID/OFDA</p>  <p>FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE</p>	<p>AICS</p>  <p>AGENZIA ITALIANA PER LA COOPERAZIONE ALLO SVILUPPO</p>
	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs Luxembourg</p>  <p>THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG <i>Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs</i></p> <p>Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs</p>	