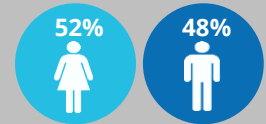




In Numbers



89,000 people assisted
in January 2021

872 mt of food assistance
in January 2021

USD 198,000 of voucher assistance
in January 2021

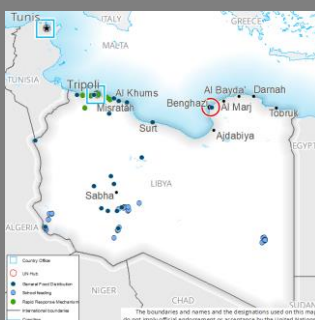
USD 11 million six-month net funding requirements (February – July 2021)

Operational Context

Efforts to reach a peaceful conclusion to the conflict continue amid persisting political instability and a volatile security situation. Unrest since 2011 has caused the economic and humanitarian situation in the country to deteriorate significantly. Ongoing violence between multiple factions further aggravates the unstable environment, with ongoing political rivalries and violent struggles worsening to the present day. The effects of the coronavirus pandemic and the restrictions implemented to prevent its spread have also deeply impacted Libya.

WFP assists food-insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including crisis-affected internally displaced persons, returnees, non-displaced populations, refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants living in urban settings. The operation works under its Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), which helps WFP and its partners to work with the Libyan people to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. The ICSP includes general food assistance and emergency food assistance as well as the implementation of programmes that include school feeding and food for training to build resilience and empower youth and women. WFP is increasingly engaging across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus to support the review and rehabilitation of pre-crisis social protection systems. This will be crucial in a post-conflict scenario to ensure social cohesion.

In Libya, WFP co-leads the Food Security Sector, leads the Logistics Sector and the Emergency Telecommunications Sector, and manages the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and the UN Hub in Benghazi.



Operational Updates

- In January 2021, WFP reached over 89,000 people in need through its programmes in Libya, which include direct general and emergency food distributions, food assistance for training activities and a school feeding/healthy kitchen project.
- Close to 10,000 beneficiaries in Tripoli and Zwara received commodity vouchers for redemption of food assistance at local stores in January. These SMS-based e-vouchers have the triple benefit of restoring dignity to beneficiaries, stimulating the economy and helping to strengthen the technological capacity of local partners. Following the successful piloting of a voucher modality in 2020, WFP plans to scale-up its use of vouchers in 2021 to reach more beneficiaries in urban areas of Libya, where it is feasible and the impact on markets is positive.
- Leveraging its legacy of innovation, WFP began piloting a hydroponics project in January as part of its livelihoods programming to help households become more resilient to shocks. Hydroponics, a soilless cultivation technique, requires up to 25 percent less space and 90 percent less water than traditional agriculture, and can help grow crops in challenging locations such as arid environments and urban contexts with limited space. Following a feasibility assessment, close to 50 farmers in Sebha, including women, were provided with raw materials and instruction on how to grow hydroponic fodder for their farm animals.
- WFP, together with United States Institute for Peace and Fezzan Libya Organization, has begun rehabilitation of the local market in Ubari. This new project forms part of WFP's food assistance for assets interventions, and came out of local peace dialogues as a way to support inter-communal relations, peace-building and social cohesion. Upon completion, the community site will include a green space and family area as well as a shopping and sales area to support the local agriculture sector.

Population: **6.7 million Libyans** and **0.63 million migrants/refugees (estimated)**

Photo: Women smallholder farmers in Sebha attend an instructional workshop on using hydroponic techniques to grow animal fodder. © WFP / Fezzan Libya Organization

Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2021)

Total Requirements (USD)	2021 Allocated Contributions (USD)
106 million	10.3 million
2021 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (February - July 2021)
41.8 million	11 million

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 (United Nations 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

- WFP's third-party monitoring partner conducted 88 onsite visits to monitor food distributions across 36 different points in the East, West and South of the country.
- WFP interviewed over 200 recipients of commodity e-vouchers to collect feedback on assistance; 12 visits were also made to seven retail shops to conduct process monitoring.
- Market monitoring data collection for January began on 1 January. WFP, through its partners, collected the prices of 32 items in 20 cities across the West and South of the country.
- WFP is finalizing plans to conduct a Climate Change and Livelihoods assessment in Libya to better understand the impact of climate change on livelihoods of women and men. This assessment will be carried out over the coming months and plans to help inform WFP's strategy from 2022 onwards, while also facilitating Libyan efforts to adapt to climate change.

Gender

- As part of an ongoing Gender Analysis, a total of 22 focus group discussions have been conducted with women and men in eight locations in Libya, as well as 28 key informant interviews. In contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality), the Gender Analysis aims to help WFP better understand the gender context in Libya; findings, expected in March 2021, will be used to refine programming and propose complementary interventions supporting gender equality and women's empowerment.
- WFP began conducting joint research with the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) and UN Women on peace, livelihoods and gender in border areas of the West and South.

Common Services

- Operators at the Emergency Telecommunications Sector's inter-agency community feedback mechanism (CFM) received over 900 calls in January from people requesting information or assistance. The majority of calls (86 percent) were related to humanitarian services. The CFM is also being used as a national COVID-19 informational hotline; the remaining 14 percent of calls were related to COVID-19. Operators continue to share official health guidelines and refer suspected COVID-19 cases to the National Centre for Disease Control. ETS internet connectivity services are also being provided to persons of concern (PoC) at UNHCR's Community Day Centre in Tripoli, with 60 PoC from 16 countries using the service in January.
- In January, UNHAS performed weekly flights connecting the East and the West of the country - going from Tunis to Tripoli and Benghazi and back - providing vital access for 127 passengers from 24 different organizations.

Challenges

- As a result of insecurity and the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19, humanitarian organizations including WFP are receiving a high number of requests for food assistance from national and local authorities across Libya. WFP urgently requires USD 11 million to sustain operations through July 2021, in order to respond to rising needs and ensure that this health crisis does not also become a food crisis.

Donors (in alphabetical order)

CERF, Czech Republic, EU Humanitarian Aid, France, Germany, 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