

# Libya – Floods

SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<b>4,255</b>	<b>8,540</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>884,000</b>	<b>\$71.4 MILLION</b>
Deaths Reported Due to the Floods	People Missing Due to the Floods	People Displaced in Libya Due to the Floods	People Requiring Humanitarian Assistance Through December	Required to Support Flood-Affected People Through December
<i>UN – September 2023</i>	<i>UN – September 2023</i>	<i>UN – September 2023</i>	<i>UN – September 2023</i>	<i>UN – September 2023</i>

- More than 42,000 people remain displaced across Benghazi, Al Butnan, Darnah, Al Jabal al Akhdar, and Al Marj districts as of September 30 following the September 10–11 floods and subsequent dam collapses in northeastern Libya, according to IOM.
- Relief actors have continued to scale up their response activities to reach flood-affected individuals, including food assistance, shelter support, and WASH services during recent weeks. Mental health and psychosocial support services remain a critical need among those flood-affected populations who experienced significant trauma during the floods.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING		
	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$5,053,341
For the Libya Floods Response in FY 2023	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$2,000,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,053,341</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 4*

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA). Funds reflect a portion of the announced funding that has been committed or obligated as of September 30, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## TIMELINE

### September 10–11, 2023

Storm Daniel makes landfall over northeastern Libya, resulting in heavy rain and widespread flooding

### September 11, 2023

Heavy rain and flooding from Storm Daniel prompt the collapse of the Abu Mansour and Darnah dams in Darnah

### September 11, 2023

U.S. Charge d’Affaires a.i. Richard B. Norland issues a declaration of humanitarian need due to the effects of the floods in Libya

### September 13, 2023

USAID/BHA activates a Disaster Assistance Response Team based in the region, and a Response Management Team in Washington, D. C. to coordinate the USG response to flood-generated humanitarian needs

### September 14, 2023

USAID/BHA provides an initial \$1 million in disaster assistance funds for the flood response

### September 18, 2023

President Joe Biden announces \$11 million in additional USG funding to support efforts of humanitarian partners providing urgently needed assistance

### September 20–21, 2023

Two flights of relief commodities carrying 26 MT of USAID/BHA commodities arrive in Benghazi

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Widespread Humanitarian Needs Persist for Flood-Affected Individuals

More than 42,000 individuals remain displaced by the floods across Benghazi, Al Butnan, Darnah, Al Jabal Al Akhdar, and Al Marj districts as of September 30, following the floods and resultant collapse of two dams in northeastern Libya on September 10–11, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Of that total displaced population, an estimated 16,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) remained in Darnah city, one of northeastern Libya’s most flood-affected areas, where floods destroyed more than 2,200 buildings.

As of September 30, Al Jabal Al Akhdar’s Al Bayda city hosts the second-largest IDP population, approximately 4,000 people and Benghazi city hosts the third-largest, 3,500 people. Nearly 1,750 displaced individuals have relocated to areas of northwestern Libya, with more than 700 IDPs sheltering in Tripoli District and another nearly 550 IDPs residing in Misrata District as of September 26. Although displacement continues in northeastern Libya, many displaced individuals originating from Al Marj returned to their homes as of September 26, IOM reports.

Recently displaced populations face ongoing challenges accessing essential goods and services. Many IDPs in Al Bayda, Benghazi, and Darnah cities continue to reside in hotels and schools, and IDPs in Darnah report a lack of medicine and medical care, according to late September IOM needs assessments of seven hotels and schools hosting IDPs. Individuals sheltering in these facilities also reported a need for psychosocial support (PSS) services, as well as clothing and personal hygiene supplies. Humanitarian actors’ ability to respond to such needs has eased in recent days, however, as local authorities are progressively reopening roads in affected areas, allowing relief agencies access to more locations to provide assistance. While local actors have partly restored banking and electricity services, such services continue to remain unavailable for many people in flood-affected areas as of September 28.

### Relief Actors Scale Up Psychosocial Support Services

As of late September, mental health and PSS (MHPSS) services remain a critical need among those flood-affected populations who exhibit symptoms of severe mental distress, relief actors report. The UN World Health Organization (WHO) met with local health authorities in Darnah to assess the most urgent MHPSS needs on September 21, and has scaled up its efforts to deploy trained mental health professionals and resources to affected areas to address increased needs. International Medical Corps is also providing consultation services for flood-affected individuals requesting mental health support as of September 22. In addition, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) continues to operate child PSS teams, in collaboration with local authorities and other nongovernmental organization (NGO) partners

to deliver psychological first aid. MHPSS and other critical health needs are expected to persist in Darnah and other flood-affected areas in the coming months and will require longer-term services, relief actors report.

## NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### KEY FIGURES



**\$3 Million**

In dedicated USAID/BHA support for emergency food assistance programming to date in FY 2023



**58 MT**

Amount of medicine and medical supplies WHO has dispatched to affected areas



**2,700**

Number of hygiene kits provided by UNHCR and partners

### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

The UN and humanitarian community in northeastern Libya continue to mobilize a comprehensive response to address the emergency needs of flood-affected populations. USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP), for instance, has reached nearly 25,600 people with in-kind food assistance as of September 26, including nearly 6,900 people in Darnah; nearly 4,000 in Benghazi; 1,300 in Al Bayda; and 1,200 in Al Marj. Several USG UN and NGO partners are also broadening existing programs to support the distribution of cash and in-kind food to flood-affected communities throughout the coming weeks.

### HEALTH AND WASH

Relief organizations are working to provide urgent health care services, essential medical supplies, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support to flood-affected communities across northeastern Libya. WHO delivered two separate shipments—each comprising 29 metric tons (MT)—of health supplies between September 11 and 16, including medicine, medical equipment, and trauma kits to affected areas. WHO is using the commodities to restore the functionality of health facilities in affected areas and in mobile health clinics. Relief actors have also dispatched medical personnel to support communities' immediate health needs in recent days. State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provided two generators and temporary warehouses to health authorities and procured 10,000 units of basic medicine for affected individuals in Darnah as of September 28. Additionally, IOM mobilized five mobile medical teams in Benghazi, Darnah, and Toukra to provide essential primary health care, psychiatric services, and MHPSS; IOM provided primary health care to more than 600 IDPs in Darnah, as well as psychiatric treatment to more than 100 patients in affected areas.

As of September 28, UNICEF had set up six water tanks in IDP sites, supplied through water truck deliveries by the Libyan Red Crescent. UNICEF has also provided chlorine to Libyan authorities for four main reservoirs in Darnah, as well as 32,000 water purification tablets to support 5,000 flood-affected people. In addition, UNHCR and its partner LibAid provided nearly 2,700 hygiene kits benefitting approximately 13,500 people in multiple locations.



**18,000**

Number of people reached with UNHCR emergency shelter supplies

## SHELTER

Relief actors are reaching populations displaced by the flooding with shelter and settlement support. UNHCR had delivered emergency relief supplies—including blankets, kitchen kits, and plastic tarps for shelter in ten affected areas, reaching 18,000 affected individuals as of September 26.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LIBYA FLOODS RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>3</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Health	Affected Areas	\$100,000
WFP	Food Assistance	Affected Areas	\$3,000,000
Implementing Partner	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments; Protection; WASH	Affected Areas	\$1,600,000
	Logistics Support		\$218,600
	Program Support		\$ 134,741
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$5,053,341</b>
<b>STATE/PRM</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
Implementing Partner	Multi-Sector	Affected Areas	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$2,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE LIBYA FLOODS RESPONSE IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$7,053,341</b>

<sup>3</sup>Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect a portion of the publicly announced funding that has been committed or obligated as of September 30, 2023.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://cidi.org)

- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)