

Libya – Floods

DECEMBER 6, 2023

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

4,352	8,540	44,862	250,000	\$71.4 MILLION
Deaths Reported Due to the Floods	People Missing Due to the Floods	People Displaced in Libya Due to the Floods	People Targeted for Assistance Through December	Required to Support Flood-Affected People Through December
<i>UN – November 2023</i>	<i>UN – October 2023</i>	<i>UN – October 2023</i>	<i>UN – November 2023</i>	<i>UN – November 2023</i>

- Floodwaters resulting from Storm Daniel generated significant damage to critical infrastructure across northeastern Libya—including health facilities, housing, and water networks—and displaced an estimated 45,000 people, according to the UN.
- Humanitarian partners conducting needs assessments across flood-affected areas in late October identified cash assistance, education, health care, livelihoods, MHPSS, shelter, and WASH as key humanitarian needs.
- More than 50 MT of USAID/BHA-funded emergency relief supplies—including blankets, hygiene kits, shelter repair kits, and water storage equipment—were delivered as part of the immediate humanitarian response.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Libya Floods Response in FYs 2023–2024	USAID/BHA ¹	\$13,226,914
		State/PRM ²
	DoD ³	\$371,000
	Total	\$15,597,914

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 5

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)
² U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)
³ U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)

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. Chargé 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 based 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 20–21, 2023

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Humanitarian Needs Persist for Flood-Affected Populations

Following flooding and rain after Storm Daniel struck northeastern Libya in mid-September, the humanitarian response has shifted to early recovery and reconstruction. USAID/BHA and its partners continue to respond to persistent humanitarian needs in the region, including food, health care, and shelter, which humanitarian actors have identified as the most pressing.

More than 90 percent of the nearly 44,860 flood-affected internally displaced persons (IDPs) remain displaced and continue to shelter in the affected northeastern Libyan *mantikas*, or regions—primarily in Al Akhdar, Benghazi, Darnah, and Al Jabal—as of late October, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). IDPs previously sheltering in schools have reportedly received rental subsidies, registered for cash-for-rent assistance, or transitioned to hotels, according to the UN. As of November, more than half of all IDPs were residing in rented accommodations, followed by approximately 45 percent living with host families without paying rent.

Approximately 5,670 flood-displaced people have returned to their respective areas of origin, with at least 93 percent of the returnees returning to *baladiyas*, or municipalities, in northeastern Libya, primarily in Toukra and Labriq, and seven percent of the returnees returning to *baladiyas* in western Libya, primarily in Misrata. Additionally, more than 1,710 migrants of various nationalities remain displaced as of October, with Albayda *baladiya*, hosting more than 820 displaced persons.

According to IOM, almost 74 percent of all *baladiyas* hosting flood-affected IDPs relied on water trucking as their main water source. Approximately 61,000 people have received help accessing clean water, including 25,000 people who were assisted through water trucking, as of November 28, the UN reports. While safe drinking water is available in some places, disaster-affected communities have reported difficulty affording it or reaching areas with adequate water sources, often relying on water from unprotected or untested sources, such as household-collected rainwater, public tap-stands, public and private boreholes, and springs, prompting concerns of the spread of waterborne illness. Health actors recorded nearly 10,000 cases of diarrhea in flood-affected areas in late November, with 25 percent of cases being among children ages five years or younger, according to the UN World Food Program (WFP). The floods' impact on health system capacity persists due to significant damage to health facilities and the deaths of at least 100 health care professionals, exacerbating affected populations' difficulties accessing medical care, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO).

USAID Delivers Over 50 MT of Emergency Relief Supplies to Support Flood-Affected Populations

USAID supported the delivery of more than 50 metric tons (MT) of relief items, including blankets, hygiene kits, shelter repair kits, and water storage equipment to augment response efforts reaching disaster-affected populations, as part of an overall USG contribution of more than \$15.5 million in funding to the Libya floods response.

The USG continues to prioritize the delivery of humanitarian assistance to flood-affected communities and closely coordinate response efforts with UN, nongovernmental (NGO) partners, and other stakeholders in the region.

KEY FIGURES



5,143

Number of children reached with MHPSS activities

NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

PROTECTION

Needs assessments conducted by relief organizations identified a critical need for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) activities to support flood-affected populations. Since early September, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and partners have reached more than 5,140 children and 300 adults with MHPSS activities. The UN agency referred more than 40 psychological first aid cases for case management and specialized services as of November 16. Moreover, UNICEF reached 360 people, including 240 women and 120 men, with parental awareness raising sessions aimed at child protection awareness and preventing exploitation of minors. In late October, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provided local health authorities in Darnah with equipment and safe space materials to support MHPSS services to flood-affected people.

Additionally, IOM provided MHPSS services to approximately 440 displaced individuals, while nearly 270 individuals received psychiatric care and counseling, as of October 17. In addition, IOM conducted MHPSS assessment visits at five community centers and five local schools hosting IDPs in Benghazi as of October 17. Another USAID/BHA-supported partner has provided MHPSS services, including psychological first-aid sessions, to nearly 200 children in four additional schools in Benghazi during the same reporting period.



56,205

Flood-affected people reached by WFP emergency food assistance

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 WFP and its partners reached more than 56,200 flood-affected people with nearly 420 MT of emergency food assistance as of late-October.



17

Health facilities in affected areas that received health kits from WHO

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. Relief actors have also continued to dispatch medical personnel to support communities' immediate health needs as of November. 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. UNHCR and a local partner have also reached over 77,800 flood-affected people, including asylum-seekers and refugees, through the distribution of core relief items such as hygiene kits and medical supplies since the beginning of the flood response. Additionally, another NGO was operating three emergency medical teams at permanent health care centers—two in Darnah and one in Sousa—providing primary health care services to flood-affected people as of October 9.

A USAID/BHA partner is working in four health facilities in Darnah and Sousa cities, providing critical care to at least 70 individuals through mobile medical teams. These teams are composed of dermatology, ear, nose, and throat, general medical practitioners, general surgery, orthopedics, pediatrics, and urology specialists. The mobile medical teams provide health care services to an average of 120 patients per day in Darnah. With USAID/BHA support, the partner continues to work on rehabilitating the health facility in Sousa, as well as providing an emergency medical team in the Sousa General Hospital Outpatient Department.

WHO has also distributed health kits to 17 health facilities in Al Bayda, Darnah, Shahhat, and Sousa, and has provided 11 non-communicable disease kits to public health centers in Al Bayda, Darnah, Al Marj, Shahhat, and Sousa as of October 11. Since the start of the emergency response to the flood, WHO has distributed nearly 28 MT of emergency kits, medicine, and medical supplies to health facilities in affected areas.

SHELTER

Relief actors are reaching populations displaced by the flooding with shelter and settlement support. Humanitarian organizations had delivered emergency relief supplies—including blankets, kitchen kits, and plastic tarps for shelter—in affected areas, reaching 45,000 affected individuals as of November 11, according to the UN.

In addition, UNHCR provided mattresses to approximately 900 households residing in Darnah. UNHCR also provided relief commodities and shelter supplies, including blankets, kitchen sets, plastic sheeting, and portable solar-powered lights to an estimated 170 flood-affected refugees and asylum-seekers in the eastern Libya's Al-Marj, Martouba, and Shahat towns in late October.



45,000

Number of people reached with emergency shelter supplies

USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LIBYA FLOODS RESPONSE IN FY 2024⁴

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
IOM	Health, Protection, WASH		\$2,000,000
UNICEF	Protection		\$1,000,000
WHO	Health		\$954,000
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection, WASH		\$2,000,000
Implementing Partner	Health, Protection		\$1,040,000
Implementing Partner	Protection, Shelter		\$1,000,000
	Logistics Support		\$177,555
	Program Support		\$4,018
TOTAL USAID FUNDING FOR THE LIBYA FLOODS RESPONSE IN FY 2024			\$8,175,573

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE LIBYA FLOODS RESPONSE IN FYs 2023–2024

TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING	\$13,226,914
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING	\$2,000,000
TOTAL DoD FUNDING	\$371,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE LIBYA FLOODS RESPONSE IN FYs 2023–2024	\$15,597,914

⁴Year 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 December 5, 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.
- 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
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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)