

Libya Assistance Overview

April 2024

CONTEXT

- Libya has experienced widespread armed conflict, civil unrest, and political instability since 2011. While the humanitarian situation in the country has improved since the October 2020 ceasefire agreement, Libya's population continues to suffer the effects of political and economic instability and ongoing violence. Asylum seekers, internally displaced persons (IDPs), migrants, and refugees remain among the most vulnerable populations, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).
- Storm Daniel—which resulted in significant flooding along northeastern Libya when it made landfall in September 2023—resulted in the deaths of at least 5,923 individuals and displaced more than 44,000 individuals across northeastern Libya, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Priority needs among IDPs have included food, health services, and shelter, with high costs a key barrier for meeting basic needs.
- Libya remains a major transit country for refugees and migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa, with more than 706,000 migrants estimated to be in-country as of December 2023, according to IOM. Conflict in Sudan in April 2023 has led to the influx of more than 125,000 migrants from Sudan into Libya as of March 2024. Migrants in Libya are highly vulnerable to protection risks, including arbitrary detention, forced labor, restricted freedom of movement, and sexual violence, as well as limited access to housing and essential services, according to the UN.



ASSISTANCE

- On September 13, 2023, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) based in Tunis, Tunisia, and a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to coordinate U.S. Government humanitarian efforts in response to the floods caused by Storm Daniel. In October, USAID/BHA transitioned management of ongoing flood response efforts from the DART and RMT to staff based in Budapest, Hungary, and Washington, D.C. USAID/BHA provided more than \$13.3 million in funding to the Libya floods response, including food, health, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance for flood-affected communities, during Fiscal Years (FYs) 2023 and 2024. Additionally, USAID/BHA supported the delivery of more than 50 metric tons of relief items, including blankets, hygiene kits, shelter repair kits, and water storage equipment, to augment response efforts reaching disaster-affected populations.

- USAID/BHA supports humanitarian partners to provide protection assistance to respond to the needs of vulnerable populations across the country. In collaboration with government ministries, international nongovernmental organization partners work to strengthen the capacity of Libya’s local and national protection actors, including through critical protection interventions—such as the distribution of dignity kits, explosive ordnance risk education trainings for local communities, establishment of safe spaces, case management and referral services for gender-based violence survivors, and provision of psychosocial support services—that support conflict-affected women and children.
- USAID/BHA partners also support Libya’s health care system by providing primary health care services through mobile medical teams, delivering medical supplies and medicines to health facilities, and strengthening the capacity of community health workers across the country.
- While continuing to address the urgent needs of Libya’s most vulnerable populations, USAID/BHA also supports early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) assistance aimed at minimizing chronic vulnerabilities and strengthening community resilience to natural disasters. With USAID/BHA support, IOM works to bolster Libya’s local and national disaster risk management capacity by improving data collection on climate change and environmental degradation to determine how these factors affect community cohesion and migration. IOM also facilitates community-based consultations and supports locally led environmental improvement projects to build the resilience of vulnerable populations and mitigate the effects of natural disasters on communities.

USAID/BHA Funding in Libya ¹			
	Emergency ²	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2023	\$5,351,341	\$2,529,369	\$7,880,710
FY 2024	\$8,265,756	–	\$8,265,756

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of April 17, 2024. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

² Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.