LIBYA

| Working environment |

○ The context

Having recently emerged from a historic revolution inspired by the Arab Spring, Libya is going through a delicate post-conflict transitional period that offers both opportunities and challenges. The country's first national elections were held successfully in July 2012, following which the National Transitional Council handed power to the democratically elected National Congress. Nevertheless, confrontations between armed militias, the growth of instability in the east of the country and the escalation of inter-ethnic and tribal conflicts pose significant challenges for

the new Government. A series of attacks targeting the international community in Benghazi have led UNHCR and other agencies to reduce their presence in eastern Libya.

Libya continues to be a major mixed-migration route in the region. Refugees and asylum-seekers comprise part of the mixed movements, the management of which is made more complex by the absence of a national asylum system. At the end of August 2012, the total number of refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR stood at approximately 10,000.

While a party to the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, Libya has not promulgated national legislation or established administrative structures dealing with asylum. Despite discussions with the

Planning figures for Libya

TYPE OF POPULATION	ORIGIN	JAN 2013		DEC 2013	
		TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR	TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR
Refugees	Various	8,000	8,000	12,000	12,000
Persons in refugee-like situations	Various	5,500	5,500	8,000	5,000
Asylum-seekers	Various	7,000	7,000	8,000	8,000
Returnees (refugees)	Libya	500	500	10	10
IDPs	Libya	47,000	47,000	35,000	35,000
Returnees (IDPs)	Libya	46,570	46,570	12,000	12,000
Total		**114,570**	**114,570**	**75,010**	**75,010**

An 87-year-old displaced Libyan in front of his temporary place of residence.

UNHCR / L. DOBBS

Libyan authorities on the matter, no formal agreement has been reached, and UNHCR's status in the country remains unsettled. Meanwhile, the Office seeks to expand the protection space for people of concern, including by helping the Libyan authorities to develop protection-sensitive migration policies.

Most of the more than 550,000 people who were internally displaced during the course of the uprising have returned to their areas of origin and are in the process of reintegration. Nevertheless, local conflicts have resulted in the new internal displacement of more than 25,000 people.

At the end of August 2012, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Libya remained somewhere between 65,000 and 80,000, a population composed mostly of minorities, such as the Tawerghas, who are unwilling or unable to return to their areas of origin for fear of reprisals.

Since the uprising, UNHCR has been assessing the risk of statelessness for certain populations in the southern part of the country. It estimates that some 50,000 people are potentially at risk of statelessness.

○ The needs

Refugees and asylum-seekers continue to arrive in Libya despite a fragile protection environment. Sub-Saharan Africans in particular face a greater risk of arrest and detention. Serious concerns persist regarding access to food and basic services, in particular water, sanitation and health, for people of concern to UNHCR. Refugees and asylum-seekers who lost their sources of livelihood during the uprising may continue to opt for dangerous migration routes across the Mediterranean.

According to reports received by UNHCR, thousands of Syrians entered Libya between 2011 and 2012. While many had lived and worked in Libya before the uprising, others, some of

whom are vulnerable and have special needs, are fleeing the violence in the Syrian Arab Republic.

For the IDPs who remain unable to return to their places of origin, UNHCR will work with the UN Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and the Libyan Humanitarian Relief Agency (LibAid) to address concerns relating to protection during displacement, the continuity of humanitarian assistance and the identification of interim and durable solutions.

Efforts to prevent and reduce statelessness will continue. Many members of transnational and semi-nomadic populations, such as the Tuareg and Tebu, lack basic citizenship documentation, including birth registration, and have also been affected by local conflicts.

Strategy and activities

While UNHCR has shifted its focus from humanitarian relief to longer-term interventions that support the establishment of a national asylum system, the immediate needs of people of concern in the volatile post-revolutionary environment will require a rapid response.

UNHCR's strategy in 2013 will focus on maximizing the available protection space and providing needed assistance in urban areas, camp-like settings and detention centres.

Main objectives and targets for 2013

Favourable protection environment

- Access to the territory is improved and risk of *refoulement* is reduced for refugees and asylum-seekers.
  - ⮑ *The extent to which border authorities refer asylum-seekers to competent authorities is improved.*

Fair protection processes and documentation

- The level of individual documentation is increased.
  - ⮑ *All people of concern are provided with individual protection documentation.*

Basic needs and essential services

- Services for refugees with specific needs are strengthened.
  - ⮑ *Some 70 per cent of refugees with disabilities are provided with access to services for their specific needs.*

- ⮑ *Nearly 70 per cent of elderly refugees with specific needs are provided with access to services.*

Community empowerment and self-reliance

- Self-reliance and livelihoods are improved for refugees.
  - ⮑ *Some 675 refugees benefit from vocational training.*
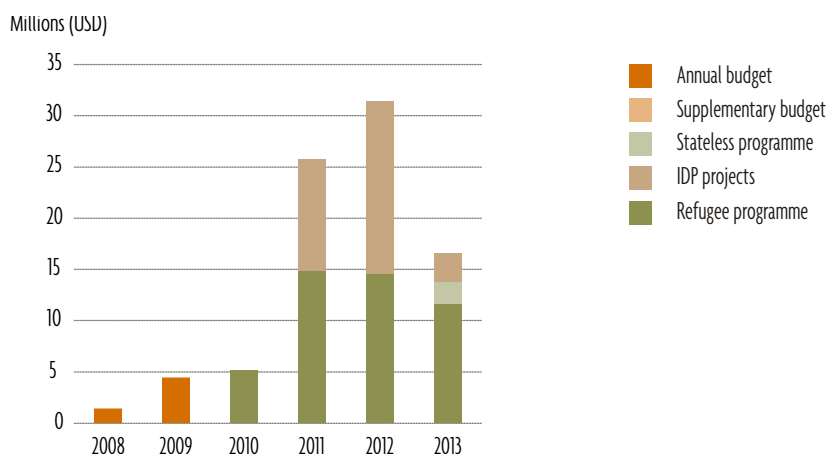
Security from violence and exploitation

- The risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is reduced and the quality of the response to it is improved.
  - ⮑ *The support given to SGBV survivors is improved.*

UNHCR's presence in 2013

□ Number of offices   **2**

□ Total staff   **56**
    International   9
    National   35
    UNVs   6
    Others   6

UNHCR's budget in Libya 2008 – 2013

Millions (USD)

Legend:
- Annual budget
- Supplementary budget
- Stateless programme
- IDP projects
- Refugee programme

In coordination with the Libyan authorities, the strategy will include strengthening registration and refugee status determination activities, promoting and facilitating durable solutions, and assisting vulnerable people of concern.

UNHCR will work closely with the Libyan authorities to address the challenges of mixed migration. It will support the establishment of a protection-sensitive migration and asylum framework by building the capacity of the Government and national NGOs. Protection monitoring will continue to be a priority, particularly for people of concern from sub-Saharan Africa, as will humanitarian relief and legal assistance for those rescued at sea or languishing in detention centres.

The remaining IDP population will receive UNHCR's protection and benefit from advocacy in support of interim and durable solutions, which will continue to be linked to Libya's larger national reconciliation process. UNHCR's strategy for 2013 will also include protection monitoring of populations at risk of statelessness, as well as the promotion of durable solutions in collaboration with UNSMIL and the Libyan authorities.

⊙ *Constraints*

The operational environment in 2013 is expected to remain fragile and unpredictable. Plans to enhance the protection space for people of concern remain constrained by the lack of a country agreement and general uncertainty during the post-conflict transition period.

Organization and Implementation

⊙ *Coordination*

Many of the inter-agency humanitarian clusters that were phased out at the beginning of 2012 have been replaced by various sectoral and thematic working groups that respond to the remaining humanitarian needs. UNHCR continues to chair the Protection Working Group and provides critical support to the IDP coordination structure. UNHCR also continues to build partnerships with local NGOs and the Libyan Red Crescent as well as LibAid.

Financial information

Pending the signing of a country agreement with the authorities to formalize UNHCR's presence and activities in Libya, the comprehensive requirements for the operation have been halved from USD 31.4 million in 2012 to USD 16.6 million in 2013.

Consequences of a funding shortfall

- Half the planned capacity-building activities on refugee law and refugee-related issues for government officials and NGO representatives would not be conducted.

- Some 85 per cent of people of concern with special needs would not receive financial assistance.

- Near 35 per cent of people of concern would not have access to primary health care services.

- Some 75 per cent of essential drugs and medicines would not be procured.

- Near 70 per cent of refugee children and other children of concern aged 5-13 would not have access to primary education.

- Some 80 per cent of people of concern would not have access to vocational skills training and other self-reliance initiatives.

2013 UNHCR's budget in Libya (USD)

BUDGET BREAKDOWN	REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	STATELESS PROGRAMME PILLAR 2	IDP PROJECTS PILLAR 4	TOTAL
Favourable protection environment				
International and regional instruments	207,636	0	0	207,636
Law and policy	257,636	0	0	257,636
Administrative institutions and practice	118,424	0	0	118,424
Access to legal assistance and remedies	828,424	0	0	828,424
Access to territory and non-refoulement	531,697	0	0	531,697
Public attitude towards persons of concern	184,636	0	57,534	242,171
Subtotal	**2,128,455**	**0**	**57,534**	**2,185,989**
Fair protection processes and documentation				
Reception conditions improved	604,485	0	0	604,485
Identification of statelessness	0	1,080,080	0	1,080,080
Registration and profiling	144,212	0	0	144,212
Refugee status determination	191,848	0	0	191,848
Individual documentation	142,636	0	0	142,636
Civil registration and civil status documentation	168,424	0	0	168,424
Subtotal	**1,251,606**	**1,080,080**	**0**	**2,331,686**
Security from violence and exploitation				
Protection from effects of armed conflict	0	0	277,534	277,534
Prevention and response to SGBV	635,273	0	87,534	722,807
Freedom of movement and reduction of detention risks	460,273	0	0	460,273
Protection of children	317,636	0	0	317,636
Subtotal	**1,413,182**	**0**	**365,069**	**1,778,250**
Basic needs and essential services				
Health	484,661	0	0	484,661
Reproductive health and HIV services	139,424	0	0	139,424
Water	144,212	0	0	144,212
Sanitation and hygiene	313,424	0	0	313,424
Basic domestic items	144,212	0	557,534	701,746
Services for people with specific needs	1,929,848	0	0	1,929,848
Education	353,636	0	0	353,636
Subtotal	**3,509,419**	**0**	**557,534**	**4,066,953**
Community empowerment and self-reliance				
Community mobilization	602,636	0	298,137	900,774
Co-existence with local communities	0	0	289,534	289,534
Self-reliance and livelihoods	1,032,636	0	0	1,032,636
Subtotal	**1,635,273**	**0**	**587,672**	**2,222,944**
Durable solutions				
Comprehensive solutions strategy	0	0	57,534	57,534
Voluntary return	288,424	0	0	288,424
Reintegration	0	0	872,472	872,472
Integration	94,212	0	0	94,212
Resettlement	382,636	0	0	382,636
Reduction of statelessness	0	1,082,436	0	1,082,436
Subtotal	**765,273**	**1,082,436**	**930,006**	**2,777,715**
Leadership, coordination and partnerships				
Coordination and partnerships	160,636	0	77,534	238,171
Donor relations and resource mobilization	273,061	0	0	273,061
Subtotal	**433,697**	**0**	**77,534**	**511,231**
Logistics and operations support				
Logistics and supply	248,424	0	107,534	355,959
Operations management, coordination and support	216,848	0	107,534	324,383
Subtotal	**465,273**	**0**	**215,069**	**680,341**
Total	**11,602,177**	**2,162,516**	**2,790,418**	**16,555,111**
2012 Revised budget (as of 30 June 2012)	**14,435,886**	**0**	**16,925,723**	**31,361,609**

PARTNERS

Implementing partners

NGOs
ACTED
Al-Wafa Charity Society
CESVI
Danish Refugee Council
International Medical Corps
Islamic Relief
Libyan Society for First Aid and Response
Mine Action Group
Mercy Corps

Others
Libyan Red Crescent

Operational partners

Government agencies
Libyan Humanitarian Relief Agency (LibAid)

NGOs
Médecins Sans Frontières

Others
ICRC
IOM
UNICEF
UNMAS Worldwide
UNSMIL
WFP