

## LIBYA

## FACTS &amp; FIGURES - 2019

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019



Fares Elabed/ Benghazi

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) expanded its response to meet Libya's growing humanitarian needs in 2019. The resumption of large-scale hostilities in April 2019 combined with years of deteriorating security situation overall has impacted all sectors and segments of life in Libya. The most affected have been the civilians and those displaced due to fighting. Together with our partner, the Libyan Red Crescent Society (LRCS), the ICRC has been scaling up its response through four offices in Libya – Tripoli, Benghazi, Misrata and Sabha – supported by the main office in Tunis. We share with you some highlights of our humanitarian activities carried out in 2019.

## PROTECTION ACTIVITIES: DIGNITY AND RESPECT FOR THE VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

The ICRC's protection activities are rooted in international humanitarian law (IHL) and we take direct action around the world to promote its compliance among the governments and weapon bearers. Our aim is to protect civilians and those no longer taking part in hostilities and ensure that essential services such as health care, water supply and other necessary infrastructure are not targeted. We also secure the humane treatment and conditions of detention for people deprived of liberty, regardless of the reasons for their arrest and detention. Additionally, the ICRC seeks to alleviate the suffering of their families, particularly by restoring communication between detainees and their relatives. We also support authorities in the dignified management of human remains.

### Recapping 2019

- Helped **eight minors** (being taken care of by the LRCS) **establish contact** with their relatives through Skype calls; two of them were reunited with their families.
- In cooperation with the LRCS, organized **over 435 phone or video calls** to reestablish contact between people separated from their loved ones, including minor migrants, detainees, internally displaced and their families.
- Forwarded **184 short oral messages** and **exchanged 300 Red Cross messages** containing brief family news between people deprived of their liberty in Libya, and their families in Libya and abroad.
- **Visited** people deprived of their liberty at **three places of detention** under the authority of the Ministry of Justice, in Tripoli, Misrata and Benghazi.
- Issued **travel documents** to **332 people** to facilitate their journey out of Libya.

- Handed over more than **2,500 body bags** and 100 kits for the management of the dead to various institutions, including the Forensic Medicine Department at the Center of Judicial Expertise and Research (CJER) under the Ministry of Justice, mortuaries under the Ministry of Health, and to the LRCS.
- Donated **five portable autopsy kits** and other material to the morgues under the umbrella of the CJER in both western and eastern parts of Libya.
- Donated **two mortuary vehicles** to Bani Waleed and Sabratha Morgues to support the authorities in the transportation of dead bodies in a proper and dignified manner.
- Donated **refrigeration system** and freezer to Sabha medical centre, doubling the morgue's storage capacity.
- Sponsored seven Libyan forensic professionals to attend workshops and meetings abroad on Humanitarian Forensic Action.
- Assessed the needs of five mortuaries and conducted an operational assessment of Tripoli CJER Genetic Lab with a forensic geneticist and provided recommendations for further development.

## ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES: PROVISION OF FOOD, LIVELIHOOD, WATER & HEALTH CARE

More than one million people in Libya benefited from one or more services provided by the ICRC in 2019. This included direct support like food, household items and cash as well as indirect help by repairing and restoring water supply and health-care services.

### Recapping 2019



#### FOOD AND ESSENTIAL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- Distributed **food parcels** containing tuna, rice, pasta, cooking oil, beans, etc., among **241,000** displaced people, residents, returnees and migrants.
- Distributed **essential household supplies** to over **212,000** displaced and conflict-hit people. The items included tarpaulins, mattresses, blankets, buckets, kitchen sets and hygiene material.



#### LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

- Provided **multipurpose cash transfers** to over **73,600** displaced people (12,134 families, including households headed by women) in different parts of Libya, allowing them to purchase required items like food, medicine or clothing from local markets and pharmacies.
- Assisted **92 families** (552 people) **headed by widows and disabled people** with **cash and in-kind grants**, including equipping them with business and vocational skills for income generation.
- Gave **cash grant to an NGO in Benghazi** that supports 24 women with disabilities through skill development in printing, handicrafts and making confectionaries. Their produce is sold in local markets, enabling them to earn a decent living.
- Commenced **refurbishing of two greenhouses** in Misrata in collaboration with the Municipality and Ministry of Agriculture to improve food security.



#### SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

- Helped in rehabilitation of 3,000 people with disabilities through provision of prostheses, orthosis and physiotherapy treatment at ICRC-supported centres in Tripoli, Misrata and Benghazi. About 35% of those who benefited were female – over 300 women and 750 girls. The staff in these centres also received on-the-job training, apart from six scholarships for professional education abroad.
- Initiated a partnership with the Libyan Paralympic Committee to support social reintegration activities for people with disabilities through sports.



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## HEALTH-CARE SERVICES

- Provided medical supplies to **66 hospitals and primary-health-care** facilities across Libya (Tripoli, Misrata, Benghazi and Sabha). At least half of them received supplies on a periodical basis. These 66 facilities provided over **750,000 consultations, vaccinated more than 16,000 children** against polio and measles and **treated thousands of wounded patients**.
- Provided **Insulin and other medicines** for over **250,000 patients** in the Misrata, Sabha and Benghazi diabetes centres.
- Renovated Bani Walid hospital, including repairs of the electricity network, thus benefiting **60,000** people.
- Improved the water, sanitary and electrical supply network in the diabetic centre in Albayda, benefiting **5,000** persons from the local community and displaced people from Tawerga.
- Restored the working of dermatology, gynaecology, paediatric and other departments in Barga primary-health-care centre and donated a backup generator, thus helping almost **1,500** people every month.
- Improved the water and electricity network in Benina primary health centre, benefiting 60 people per month.
- Improved water and electricity supply network in Sabha medical centre, Al Gurdah polyclinic and Zuwila primary-health-care centre, benefiting **10,000** people.
- Carried out basic first-aid training sessions for over **300 members** of various armed groups.



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## CLEAN WATER AND BETTER SANITARY FACILITIES

- Donated spare parts to reinstate **nine trucks** for enhancing the operational capacity of sanitary facilities in Bani Walid, benefiting **177,500** people.
- Provided **two pumps** and spare parts for two **desludging trucks** of General Company for Water and Wastewater (GCWW) in Zuwara, benefiting **49,000** people.
- Donated **dewatering pumps** and spare parts to GCWW in Al Sabry, improving sanitary services for **60,000** people.
- Donated water pumps and spare parts to GCWW in Al-Jarif, Al Talateen and Gbiba (Sirte neighbourhoods), giving **15,300** people better access to water.
- Provided fuel pumps, gauges, chemicals and other quality control equipment to the desalinization plant in Derna, giving **95,000 people** access to clean water.
- Provided water and sanitary services at the shelters in seven municipalities of Tripoli, benefiting **3,000** displaced people.

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## COOPERATION ACTIVITIES: PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LRCS

To further strengthen operational response of the LRCS, the ICRC signed a partnership agreement to lay down the activities to be carried out jointly.

### Recapping 2019

- Organized seven events in Tunis for over **130 LRCS volunteers and staff** to help build their capacities in the fields of strategic planning, financial management, finalization of LRCS volunteering policy and to introduce and mainstream safer access tools.
- Organized meetings that were attended by representative of the LRCS, other National Societies and the IFRC to discuss and develop coordination mechanisms for an effective humanitarian response. Towards the end of the year, the ICRC supported the LRCS in holding its national meeting, gathering over 40 participants from their headquarters and branches.

## PREVENTION ACTIVITIES: GAINING ACCEPTANCE FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION & IHL

The ICRC continued to engage with various interest groups to promote the compliance with IHL and talk about our mandate and mission. We conducted **workshops and training sessions** in various parts of Libya, as well as in Egypt and Tunisia, gathering over **450 participants** from different national authorities, military / armed groups, media and the LRCS.






Mohamed Lagha Misrata

We help people around the world affected by armed conflict and other violence, doing everything we can to protect their lives and dignity and to relieve their suffering, often with our Red Cross and Red Crescent partners. We also seek to prevent hardship by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and championing universal humanitarian principles.

People know they can count on us to carry out a range of life-saving activities in conflict zones and to work closely with the communities there to understand and meet their needs. Our experience and expertise enable us to respond quickly and effectively, without taking sides.

## CONTACTS

 [facebook.com/ICRCly](https://facebook.com/ICRCly)  
 [twitter.com/ICRC\\_lby](https://twitter.com/ICRC_lby)  
[www.icrc.org](http://www.icrc.org)

**ICRC in Tripoli**  
 Ibrahim Al Houni Str.  
 Nofleen - Tripoli, Libya  
 T +218 21 340 9331 / 99 20  
 F +218 21 340 99 20

**ICRC in Misrata**  
 Compound of Dr Mustafa Glydan  
 Near Hotel Management Study  
 Awlad Baioo area - Misrata,  
 Libya  
 T +218 51 261 3502

**ICRC in Benghazi**  
 Hay Al Naseem Str.  
 Tabalino - Benghazi, Libya  
 T +218 92 807 7405 / 61 471 1167

**ICRC in Sabha**  
 Hijara area, close to Jazirat Al  
 Hjara  
 Of Tripoli-Sabha Road - Sabha,  
 Libya  
 M +218 91 333 84 04

**Libya Support Unit (LSU)**  
 Khanfir Building.  
 Lac Turkana St, Les Berges du  
 Lac 1  
 1053 Tunis, Tunisia  
 F +216 71 960 156  
[tri\\_tripoli@icrc.org](mailto:tri_tripoli@icrc.org)



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