



## ICRC Libya – COVID-19 Response 15 March to 30 April 2020

Since middle of March 2020 the ICRC while maintaining its conflict related humanitarian activities, also started to ramp up its response to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Libya. Working with various authorities and with our Movement partners; the Libyan Red Crescent Society (LRCS) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the ICRC geared up its COVID-19 response. Below are the highlights of these activities carried out between 15 March to 30 April 2020.

### BENGHAZI SUB-DELEGATION

- **Supported six health facilities** in Benghazi, Darna, Tobruk and Al Bayda city by providing **18,000 Libyan Dinar (LYN)** in total, to purchase PPE materials, which will help in preventing COVID-19 infection among medical staff.
- **Supported** Physical Rehabilitation Centre in Benghazi with **3'000 LYD** to purchase PPE materials which will help to protect their staff most likely to be exposed to COVID-19.
- **Supported** Jabal Akhdar Diabetic Centre with **6000 LYD** to print awareness and educational materials about COVID-19.
- **Supported** Kweifiya Correction and Rehabilitation Institution with **750** hygiene parcels and collective hygiene items sufficient for 3 months.
- **Advised** Ministries of Justice, Interior and Health as well as the International Humanitarian Law Committee of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces (LNA) on issues related to preventing COVID-19 in places of detention and detainee's rights. These advisories also offered guidance on how to best preserve the rights of detainees, including family links, while responding to COVID-19.
- **Provided** to International Humanitarian Law Committee of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces (LNA), COVID-19 Guidance for the Management of Death and digital version of the manual for the Management of Dead Bodies after Disasters. Similar guidelines were also shared with the Ministry of Interior.



Ahmed Buhath @ICRC

### TRIPOLI SUB-DELEGATION

- **Distributed 700 litres of disinfectant bleach and 35 sprayer pumps** and trained the management staff in **20 IDP collective centres (CCs)** on their use and on the use of personal protection equipment (PPE). Additionally, also provided supplementary hygiene items and trainings for **333 IDP families** to carryout disinfection within their home.
- **Conducted** 13 Infection Prevention Control (IPC) training attended by **159 medical workers including 25 PHCC vaccination staff**.
- **Provided** to Humanitarian Affairs Permanent Committee of the Libyan Army (GNA) PPE and 14-day supply of disinfectant in addition to a **one-day training session** on the use of these materials as part of COVID-19 preventive measures.
- **Partnered** with 'Dokkan' to pilot an online food and hygiene items delivery program in Al-Ajyal and Al-Boumadi CCs where **over 30 IDP families** who have been adversely impacted by COVID-19 related restrictions received additional assistance through alternate technology before the Ramadan period. This program will soon be expanded to an additional 15 ICRC-supported CCs to improve access to essential goods while promoting physical distancing.
- **Provided** additional protective grant to **37 recipients** of microeconomic initiative (MEI) programme, whose livelihood projects have been stalled due to COVID-19. This grant will help them to avoid negative coping mechanisms (for e.g. selling of assets, reducing food consumption etc.) while increasing the likelihood that they will be able to successfully reactivate their businesses post COVID-19.
- **Distributed five touchless thermometers** and PPE for the Ministry of Justice health staff working in places of detention. Also **conducted a training session** on the **use of chlorine and donated posters** on the use of chlorine and on COVID-19 prevention measures.

- **Advised** Ministries of Justice, Interior and Health as well as the Humanitarian Affairs Permanent Committee of the Libyan Army (GNA) on issues related to preventing COVID-19 in places of detention and detainee's rights. These advisories also offered guidance on how to best preserve the rights of detainees, including family links, while responding to COVID-19.

- **Distributed** disinfection materials, enough for two months, and PPE for the disinfection teams, for Al-Jdeida Correction and Rehabilitation Institutions (male and female). Also distributed **4300 soap bars** for detainees.

- **Provided** to Humanitarian Affairs Permanent Committee of the Libyan Army (GNA) COVID-19 Guidance for the Management of Death and digital version of the manual for the Management of Dead Bodies after Disasters. Similar guidelines were also shared with the Ministry of Interior.



Ahmed Buhaih @ICRC

## MISRATA SUB-DELEGATION

- **Supported** six medical facilities in Misrata by providing **18,000 LYD**, to purchase PPE materials, which will help preventing COVID-19 infection among medical staff.

- **Supported** Misrata Diabetic Centre with an increased supply of drugs, to reduce the exposure of high-risk patients who have to leave their homes to seek medical care. In addition, posters were also provided to raise awareness about COVID-19 along with **six phone devices and credit** to be used for consultations with patients.

- **Distributed** disinfection materials and personal protection equipment for the teams conducting the disinfection, enough for three months, to Sikit and Tamina Correction and Rehabilitation Institutions. Also distributed **380 hygiene parcels and 8000 soap bars** to cover the needs of detainees for three months. In addition, sessions were also organized on the use of chlorine for the staff of these detention centres and posters were distributed to raise awareness on COVID-19 prevention measures.

## SABHA SUB-DELEGATION

- **Supported** five medical facilities in Sabha with **15,000 LYD**, to purchase PPE materials, which will help in preventing COVID-19 infection among medical staff.

- **Supported** Sabha Diabetic Centre with **five phones devices and credit** to run hotline for COVID-19 home-consultations, in addition, posters were also distributed to raise people's awareness about COVID-19.



Mohaned Krema @ICRC

## NATIONWIDE

### Supporting the LRCS's COVID-19 Contingency and Response Plan

- The ICRC and IFRC are working together to support financially and technically the Libyan Red Crescent Society in a complementary and coordinated way, in line with the LRCS's COVID-19 Contingency and Response Plan. The LRCS has been extremely active in this phase in reaching out to the vulnerable population, especially in terms of risk communication and awareness-raising;

- The ICRC provided disinfection materials and PPE kits, as well awareness sessions on the use of chlorine to LRCS volunteers in some LRCS branches. Additionally, medicine and financial support for running costs of **two** LRCS mobile health clinics was also provided. These clinics offer medical consultations through phone calls, home visits, provision of medications and transfer of patients to hospitals.

### Restoration of Family links

- In cooperation with LRCS, the ICRC continues to work on restoring and maintaining contact between family members in Libya who have been separated due to conflict, migration, or due to hospitalization and quarantine because of COVID-19.

### Management of the dead

- The ICRC reached out and offered guidelines and manuals to assist LRCS and various authorities across Libya in the field of health, forensics, municipal services and others to make plans to manage COVID-19 related deaths including management of the dead bodies.