

NRC's operations in Libya

Humanitarian overview

Libya is now in its eleventh year of instability and conflict following the fall of the Gaddafi regime. The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) reached 168,001, with an additional 652,000 returnees looking to resettle after years of displacement. An estimated 803,000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance. The country had been geographically split since 2014, with the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) governing the West and the Libyan National Army (LNA) overseeing the East. In March 2021, the Government of National Unity (GNU) was formed, bringing together the two parties, and increasing hopes of stability. However, repeated postponements of national elections in 2022 could renew conflicts, displacement, and disrupt delivery of assistance.

Additionally, there are 621,007 migrants in Libya, including an estimated 5,000 refugees and migrants in detention centers. Years of conflict between armed groups, political and economic insecurity and shrinking humanitarian access, exacerbated by socioeconomic impacts of Covid-19 have altogether deepened this neglected crisis.

NRC's operation

NRC began operations in Libya in 2017 and has continued to scale up its operational and programming presence supporting Libyan IDPs, returnees and host communities as well as vulnerable migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. Over the past year, NRC in Libya supported more than 65,000 people through education, shelter, water, sanitation, general hygiene programs, and protection in all regions of the country.

NRC implements education/youth, ICLA, shelter and cash activities in Tripoli, Benghazi, Ajdabiya, and Tawergha. It is scaling up its advocacy and rapid needs assessment capacity to improve the protection environment for the most vulnerable communities in Libya and to support them in accessing durable solutions.

NRC is the co-lead of the National Education and Shelter/ NFI Sector Working Groups, and is an active member of the Libya INGO Forum. NRC has established offices and guesthouses in Tripoli and Benghazi.

NRC Libya

Established	2017
International staff	16
National staff	96



NRC Libya

Country offices

Tunis, Tunisia

Areas of operation

Tripoli, Benghazi, Ajdabiya, Tawergha, Misrata



NRC Libya

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Education

NRC's education response ensures that children and young people have access to quality, safe and inclusive education. The education environment in Libya requires emergency/transitional and resilience/sustainable support. NRC responds to both through its established community centres, in formal and informal schools, and through remote learning modalities.

NRC also works with communities to provide community-based education services and provides training and support to incentive teachers. Key activities supported by NRC Libya education teams include:

- Better Learning Programme (BLP)
- delivery of school and hygiene kits and Covid-19 enhancements
- teacher professional development
- Arabic Basic Literacy and Numeracy (BLN) non-formal education classes
- non-formal remedial programming for non-Libyan children and youth
- adolescent girls clubs and adolescent boys clubs
- parent-teacher associations (PTAs)

- outreach and community awareness activities
- sector coordination and capacity building
- continued service delivery from community centres in Tripoli and in Ajdabiya
- youth technical and non-technical training and social engagement

NRC Libya education teams are also scaling up youth programming to vulnerable Libyans and non-Libyans. Trainings focusing on life and professional skills will be facilitated, allowing youth to find work or start their own business. NRC will support business grow through on-the-job mentoring and trainings, and in-kind or cash assistance.

Education activities have continued during the Covid-19 pandemic, with classes and learning support being provided over WhatsApp, student kits being distributed and registration of students taking place.

Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)

NRC supports vulnerable displacement and conflict-affected communities to establish legal identity, including obtaining legal civil documentation (LCD), and claim their housing, land and property (HLP) rights and employment (ELP) rights, as well as access essential services (AES). This is done through awareness raising on legal protection needs by providing information at the community level. Through mobile group information sessions (GIS), NRC raises awareness on LCD and HLP, ELP and AES rights, procedural requirements and how to exercise them. NRC is also providing GIS to refugees and asylum seekers on relevant topics including residency, work rights, tenancy and civil documentation that provide specific information on available legal avenues.

Furthermore, NRC provides populations of concern with direct legal counselling and legal assistance: representation before formal courts, administrative bodies, or through collaborative dispute resolution mechanisms. NRC also provides technical assistance and capacity building to duty-bearers, customary justice actors and displaced community leaders on property rights, protection against eviction, property restitution and compensation.

Over the next year, NRC will also provide HLP support to NRC shelter teams and the shelter sector at large by conducting HLP due diligence for shelter beneficiaries, training NRC shelter teams in HLP and security of tenure issues. This will help ensure that mitigation measures are in place for not doing harm, including reducing the risk of eviction and increasing beneficiary protection against exclusion from compensation schemes and further displacements linked to insecurity of tenure or lack of access to required legal documentation. Moreover, NRC is strengthening its approach to support access to employment laws and procedures. NRC is now the main focal point in Tripoli and Benghazi for IDP, host community, or returnee people in need of legal aid.

Shelter

NRC Libya's integrated shelter programme aims at promoting the right to access safe, protective and adequate housing, basic community infrastructure and facilities for IDP, returnee and affected populations residing in urban settings and IDP settlements. Shelter is essential for people to live safely and securely, while a lack of adequate shelter in many areas features among the key obstacles to sustainable return across Libya.

During emergencies or following new displacements, our team seeks to address basic and immediate needs of Libyan and non-Libyan communities through the provision of core relief and basic household items, hygiene kits and cash assistance. We also work in urban settings and informal settlements where vulnerable families are supported with shelter repairs and improvements integrated with WASH upgrades, and with community level projects such as rehabilitating water/sewage networks, medical centres, garbage removal, and communal lighting systems.

We advocate for improved shelter accessibility for people with special needs, and for increased security of tenure, operating in the same areas as the ICLA team to maximise the impact of this programme and to fulfill our commitment to integrated programming.

Shelter activities have remained a priority during the Covid-19 outbreak, with 10,139 IDPs reached with hygiene kits to mitigate the spread of the disease.

Cash assistance

NRC provides emergency multi-purpose cash assistance to vulnerable Libyan IDPs and non-Libyan conflict-affected communities, with the aim of addressing immediate urgent and protection needs. The cash assistance is provided through pre-loaded gift cards that allow direct purchase of commodities from more than 3,000 selling points in Libya. Through this approach NRC reduces negative coping mechanisms by increasing agency and self-protection assistance by facilitating access to basic needs. In 2021, NRC provided cash assistance to 14,561 individuals to facilitate access to basic needs.

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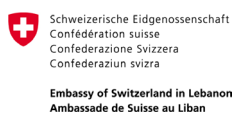
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