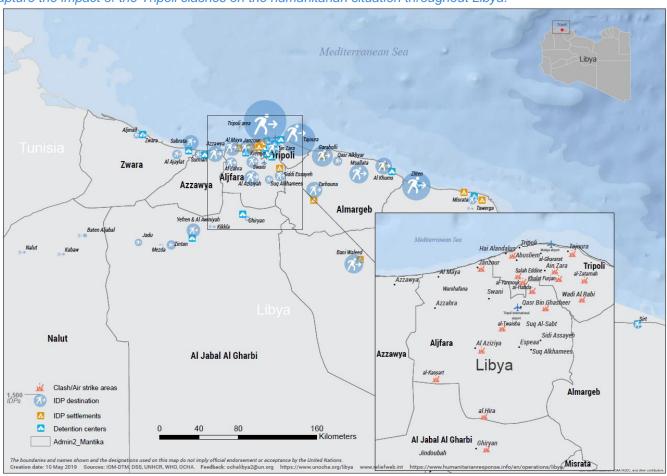


# LIBYA: Tripoli Clashes

# Situation Report No. 23

As of 10 May 2019 (covering 7 – 10 May)

This report is produced by OCHA Libya in collaboration with humanitarian partners. *Kindly note: the next Situation Report will be released on 17 May and, thereafter, Situation Reports will be released on a weekly basis, with an expanded scope to capture the impact of the Tripoli clashes on the humanitarian situation throughout Libya.* 



## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The international humanitarian community strongly condemns the apparent direct attack on a clearly marked ambulance on 8 May, injuring two paramedics and leaving the Director of Tripoli's Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services in critical condition the latest in an alarmingly high incidence of attacks on first responders and medical staff.
- An airstrike on the night of 7-8 May injures two persons inside the Tajoura detention centre; UNHCR reiterates calls for the immediate evacuation of refugees and migrants detained in conflict areas.
- The humanitarian impact of Tripoli clashes is felt in the south of Libya, as supplies of essential goods such as food and fuel are disrupted, exacerbating already existing scarcities.

*i*<sup>3</sup>→ 62,700

people internally displaced by ongoing hostilities

术 111

civilian casualties confirmed, including 23 civilian fatalities † 34,000

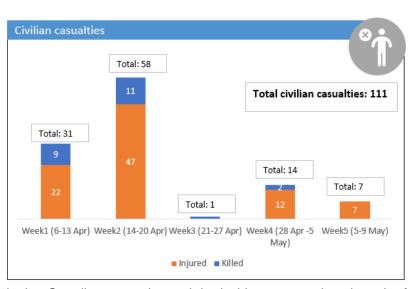
people assisted with some form of humanitarian assistance since the onset of crisis



funding required for Tripoli Flash Appeal

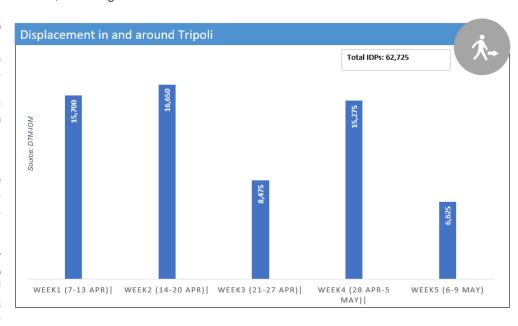
# SITUATION OVERVIEW

Attacks on health services: On 8 May, a clearly marked armored ambulance vehicle carrying the Director of Tripoli's Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services was hit in an apparent direct attack in the Twaisha area of Qasr Bin Ghasheer, injuring two paramedics and leaving the Director in critical condition. He lost both legs in the attack. This is the latest in an alarmingly high incidence of attacks on first responders and medical staff. Since the beginning of the offensive in Tripoli, 4 health workers have been killed, 4 have been injured, 12 ambulances have been impacted and 2 health facilities were evacuated as a result of armed clashes, shelling and airstrikes. These incidents further hamper the ability of already overstretched health services to provide vital assistance to civilians, including those inured as



a result of armed conflict. On 9 May, the Humanitarian Coordinator condemned the incident as a serious breach of International Humanitarian Law (IHL). The WHO likewise condemned the incident in a statement on 9 May. <u>All parties to the conflict are obligated to take constant care to spare civilians and civilian objects, including medical personnel and assets. Deliberate attacks on clearly marked medical transports constitute war crimes under IHL.</u>

- <u>Civilian casualties</u>: In addition to the health workers injured in the incident on 8 May, Health Sector partners have also verified four civilian casualties resulting from armed clashes and airstrikes on 6-7 May. To date, 111 <u>civilian</u> casualties have been verified by the Health Sector, including 23 civilian deaths<sup>1</sup>.
- Displacement: According to the latest IOM-DTM figures, approximately 62,700 persons have now fled their homes as a result of the armed conflict. Some 3,900 new IDPs have been identified since 7 May in Qasr Al Akhyar, Tajoura, Suq Al Jumaa, Wershafana, Al Ajayalat, Garabolli and Tripoli. The majority of IDPs are staving private accommodation, with friends and relatives or in rental accommodation, mainly urban areas of Tripoli. Many IDPs have also moved to areas along the coastal line of Western Libya and the Nafusa mountains, while



approximately 2,700 IDPs are hosted in collective shelters established by local authorities and first responders. 29 collective shelters have been set up to date, the majority of which are in schools with some others in hotels, resorts and university dorms. An increasing number of IDPs are being identified in areas further away from Tripoli, a trend which is likely to increase the radius in need of humanitarian assistance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These figures include only cases that could be individually verified, and so must be considered a minimum. Last update from Health Sector received 5 May 2019.

- Refugees and migrants: On the overnight of 7-8 May, airstrikes against a GNA compound in Tajoura caused damages and injured two persons within the Tajoura detention centre (DC) located in close proximity, in which some 564 refugees and migrants were detained at the time. In a statement on 8 May, UNHCR called for all refugees and migrants in DCs in conflict areas to be immediately evacuated to safety. On 9 May, UNHCR transferred 228 individuals from Azzawya (116 Individuals), Tajoura (68 individuals) and Al Sabah (44 individuals) DCs to the UNHCR's Gathering and Departure Facility (GDF) in Tripoli. This leaves approximately 3,300 refugees and migrants trapped in DCs in areas exposed to or at risk of armed conflict and where access to food, water and healthcare are severely restricted due to the conflict. The international humanitarian community continues to call for these individuals to be immediately released and provided with safe shelter until their asylum claims can be processed or they can be provided with safe repatriation assistance for reunification with their families. The international humanitarian community likewise urgently reminds parties to the conflict of their obligations under IHL to refrain from positioning military assets in or near civilian objects, including places of detention.
- <u>Impact beyond Tripoli</u>: The conflict in and around Tripoli is making it increasingly difficult for assistance to reach people in need in other areas of the country, particularly in the southern region, where the recent conflict has exacerbated existing humanitarian concerns. The disruption of transport of key goods, due to the presence of conflict and combatants along major trade routes is increasing the severity of already existing shortages. Reportedly, delivery of fuel to petrol stations in the south has ceased since the start of the conflict in Tripoli, leaving residents to resort to the black market and facing high price increases. Access to food, gas cylinders for cooking, electricity, cash liquidity and health services are also reported to be restricted. Parties to the conflict have pulled some of their forces from the south to join the frontlines in around Tripoli, reportedly leading to increased lawlessness and security incidents, especially along the Jufra trade route, also contributing to the shortages in supplies of essential items.

## **HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE**



# **Food Security**

### Needs:

 Displaced and conflict-affected individuals, including refugees and migrants, face obstacles in meeting basic food needs due to disruption of supply chains, market closures and rising prices brought on by scarcity.



## Response:

On 9 May, WFP through the Rapid-Response Mechanism provided food assistance to 130 IDP families (approximately 650 individuals) in urban settings in Sabratha.



# Health

#### Needs:

Conflict-affected individuals – including IDPs, refugees and migrants, and civilians trapped
in conflict areas – have had their access to health care services severely disrupted. Injured
civilians and persons with specific medical needs are in urgent need of medical assistance
– assistance which is increasingly strained due to attacks impacting health workers and
facilities.



#### Response:

- Two WHO EMTs continue to provide surgical support at Tarhouna and Gharyan hospitals. On 8-9 May, these EMTs performed a total of 26 (2 major and 24 minor) surgeries, bringing the total surgeries performed by WHO EMTs to 375 (203 major and 172 minor) in the past three weeks since they have been deployed at these hospitals.
- On 8-9 May, IMC, IRC and IOM Mobile Medical Teams (MMTs) treated a total of 210 cases in the Alfallah I and II IDP camps, Alshaheed primary healthcare centre (PHC), Emhemmed Almgarif PHC, Fashlom PHC, 17th of February PHC and the Ahmed Benshatwan collective shelter.

• On 7-9 May IMC and IOM provided health assistance to 309 refugees and migrants in Abusliem, Al Sabaa, Tajoura, Janzour, Gharyan, Azzawya Al Nasr, Zwara and Zintan DCs.



#### Needs:

 According to Protection Sector, instances of kidnapping, forced disappearance and arrest of civilians (including IDPs) originally from the east of Libya (due to their perceived political affiliation) have been increasing.



Total people assisted to date

New collective shelters are emerging, in and outside of Tripoli, to deal with the rising levels of displacement, all of which are in need of urgent Child Protection and GBV services.

#### Response:

- In the past week, 142 individuals have been reached with specialised GBV services, while 299 women and girls have been provided dignity kits, in collective shelters (Ahmed Benshatwan, Trucks Company, Hotel 17th February, Al Rrazi, Abdallah Al Zahmloul School, Tarek Ben Ziad and Abudar Elghafari School) and urban areas of Tripoli and Sabratha.
- As of 9 May, UNICEF, through Child Protection partners has reached over 4,220 conflict affected children with specialized PSS and recreational activities in collective shelters and in urban areas. 550 caregivers were also reached through psychosocial support and child protection awareness raising sessions.
- On 8 May, UNICEF signed a letter with the Ministry of Education Psychosocial Support Department to open 24 child-friendly spaces in schools in conflict-affected areas in Tripoli. The centres will be able to reach conflict-affected children and their families with child protection services in urban settings.



#### Needs:

Armed conflict continues to drive displacement, with nearly 6,000 new IDPs identified in the
past 48 hours and the overall number of IDPs identified nearing 50,000. Newly displaced
families require shelter and NFI support to meet their immediate needs.



#### Response:

- During the past week, 518 IDP families (approximately 2,590 individuals) in urban settings in Gharyan, Al Khums and Misrata were provided with NFI packages.
- Cash assistance in the form of prepaid cards were provided to 120 IDP families (600 individuals) in collective shelters and urban settings in Hai Andalus.

# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

#### Needs:

• The company contracted to perform maintenance of the Man-Made River Project (MMRP) has evacuated its staff due to the security situation. As a result, the total water distribution for Tripoli has been reduced from 520,000 cubic meters per day prior to the start of the conflict to 330,000 cubic meters at present. Water distribution for the county as a whole has reduced by one quarter from 1,200,000 to 800,000 cubic meters per day.



### Response:

- On 8 May UNICEF rehabilitated WASH facilities in the Al Badr collective shelter, benefitting 75 people, including 24 children. In total UNICEF has provided upgrades and maintenance in nine collective shelters, benefitting 134 families (approximately 670 individuals), including 375 children.
- WASH Sector partners provided hygiene kits to approximately 2,225 IDPs in urban settings in Al Ajylat, Mizda, Bani Walid and Tarhouna.

## **FUNDING**

Tripoli Flash Appeal 2019

US\$ 10.2 million requested

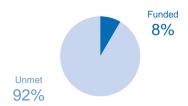


With the launch of the Tripoli Flash Appeal, humanitarian actors urgently seek US\$10.2 million to assist some 100,000 highly vulnerable people in and around Tripoli.

US\$2 million funding has been allocated by the CERF to respond to the current emergency and to ensure civilians receive timely life-saving assistance. Additionally, the UK's Department for International Development has pledged £1 million to meet the requirements of the Tripoli Flash Appeal.

Libya Humanitarian Response Plan 2019

US\$ 202 million requested



The humanitarian community appeals for US\$202 million under the Libya Humanitarian Response Plan 2019. To date, only 8% is funded. If no additional funding is received, humanitarian partners will not be able to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of the people who have recently been affected by the clashes in Tripoli.