Voices from Libya

Highlights from our work - January to November 2020

- 29,326 People reached with SRH and GBV services (male and female)
- 10,227 women of reproductive age (15-49) reached with SRH services
- 13,543 People reached with SRH services
- 89 UNFPA-supported safe deliveries
- 13,967 individuals reached with GBV services
- 7,133 beneficiaries assisted through psychosocial support hotline '1417'
- 1,013 dignity kits distributed
- 309 personnel trained on various aspects of GBV
- 73,753 individuals reached with SRH & GBV information and awareness activities
- 809 personnel trained on various aspects of SRH
- 78 Reproductive Health kits benefiting 7,545 beneficiaries
- 2,021 young Libyan trained on life skills and vocational trainings
- USD 9,488,000 Humanitarian funding requirement for 2020

Funded 52%  
Gap 48%

4,640 (till October) individuals reached with personal protective equipment (PPE) to safeguard against COVID-19
A year ago in Nairobi, the world gathered again, after 25 years from Cairo’s International Conference on Population and Development to set an action plan to a full equality for women and girls, and of reproductive rights for all.

We, in UNFPA Libya work every day to complete the vision of achieving the three zeros by 2030: 0 unmet need for contraception; 0 preventable maternal deaths; and 0 gender-based violence and harmful practices. We are working with our partners in Libya to provide quality health services to all women of reproductive age, newborns, children and adolescents, including migrants and refugees. We work on building the capacities of health care providers through trainings and learning sessions. Health is the primary right of the migrants and displaced people and for that we have equipped and rehabilitated the facilities that seized to work since the war broke out. This has lifted the pressure on government hospitals and provided much needed support to primary health care structure in Libya.

UNFPA Libya is structuring a solid basis of intervention to address GBV prevention and response involving main governmental institutions and actors, including the Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Interior. In multiple locations, including Tripoli, Sabha and Benghazi, thanks to the support of our local and international partners, Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS) are providing livelihood, life skills trainings and awareness sessions on gender-related topics to women and girls. In parallel, we provide remote and in-person services for GBV survivors including psychosocial support, case management and referral to the nearest health facilities and other needed services.

With our sister agencies, UNFPA continues to respond to the humanitarian emergencies in Libya through Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM). We provided dignity kits in urban areas as well as in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps containing items for woman hygiene to facilitate their movements and access to life saving services.

We work on strengthening the organizational capacity and outreach of youth networks in Libya along with building capacity of young activists and journalists. Recently UNFPA Libya worked with seven youth organizations to raise awareness on COVID-19 in different locations and communities across the country. UNFPA launched a training package to support young women in their economic and political empowerment across Libya.

The UNFPA team is determined to achieving the three zeros by 2030. We will not rest till every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled in Libya.

Orange the world

As the world marked International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence (GBV) on 25 November, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), together with the Ministry of Social Affairs and partners, is raising awareness about the issue especially focusing on this year’s theme: impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the most vulnerable in Libya under the slogan “we all have a role to play.”
**15 healthcare workers provided with capacity building training on clinical care of GBV survivors**

One of the core focuses of UNFPA Libya’s gender-based violence (GBV) programme is to provide psychosocial support and clinical care to those who are subjected to violence. In this regard building the capacity of the service providers becomes imperative so that such cases are handled with due diligence and care. Keeping this in view, UNFPA conducted training sessions for 15 healthcare workers from the Ministry of Health (MoH) on GBV Core Concepts and Clinical Care for Survivors in Tripoli from 15 to 20 November. The training enabled the participants to provide survivor centered clinical care including identifying women experiencing violence, providing first-line support, and identifying local support resources.

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**16 Days of Activism kicks off**

On the occasion of International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, UNFPA and partners launched the 16 days of activism against GBV. Awareness activities include TV and radio shows, awareness meetings and sessions especially in detention centres and social media campaign involving Y-PEER network of young peer educators. This year’s campaign focuses on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the life of people who find themselves in the most vulnerable situations, with a focus on violence against women and girls.

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**Psychosocial support to GBV survivors continues in November**

In the month of November, UNFPA “Psychosocial Support Hotline 1417” addressed 758 calls related to psychosocial support and legal consultations on emotional, domestic and physical abuse issues, referring 40 individuals to receive further specialized services.

Social workers at the UNFPA supported Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSSs) in Tripoli, Benghazi and Sabha continued providing remote and in-person services throughout the month, reaching 122 women and girls through psychosocial support sessions, 451 women and girls through awareness sessions on gender-related topics, and 534 through livelihood and life skills training sessions on sewing, nursing skills, entrepreneurship and adolescent girls’ toolkit.

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**Monitoring visits to meet the needs in detention centres**

Through LibAid, UNFPA conducted four monitoring visits to the detention centres of Al Seka in Tripoli, Al Zawiya in Zawiya City and Al Ganfouda in Benghazi to assess the conditions of the centres and identify the needs of the detainees with a focus on women and girls. Psychosocial activities and consultations were conducted during the visits reaching all migrants and refugees in need of assistance.

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**Dignity Kits distributed**

As part of the Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM) implemented jointly with IOM, UNICEF and WFP, UNFPA in collaboration with the Ministries of Interior and Defence distributed 250 dignity kits among displaced families.
Four weeks training of healthcare providers on maternal and child health concluded in Tripoli

In partnership with MoH, UNFPA conducted multiple training sessions on Maternal and Child Health (MCH), including emergency obstetric and child health in Tripoli. The training engaged 27 midwives coming from different regions in the south of Libya. An HIV testing and counselling training was also conducted remotely by UNFPA for Sabha Primary Healthcare providers, reaching 20 nurses, midwives and doctors.

According to Libyan health sector reports, more than 80% of health facilities lack the capacity to provide lifesaving maternal and newborn health services in the south of Libya. Provision of Maternal and Child Health and Emergency Obstetric Care training is part of UNFPA capacity building initiative in the country. In addition, UNFPA supplements the services in primary healthcare facilities through provision of emergency reproductive health kits and supplies to maintain minimum initial services and train midwives and nurses to increase the resilience of healthcare institutions in the face of conflict and COVID19 pandemic in Libya.

Dr Tahir Ghaznavi, UNFPA’s SRH Specialist

UNFPA along with its partners continues provision of much needed SRH Services

Through its partners International Medical Corps (IMC) and Libyan Red Crescent (LRC), UNFPA continued supporting the provision of essential reproductive health services in Tripoli, Sabha and Ghat through mobile medical units. In November, the teams assisted a total of 1,294 women, 376 children, 137 men and ensured the safe delivery of 42 newborns. The teams also conducted 14 new and 5 follow-up Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) consultations and supported the triage of a total of 1,017 cases according to MoH-NCDC guidelines. The medical teams conducted training sessions for 41 local healthcare providers, focusing on Sexually Transmitted Illnesses (STI), diabetes in pregnancy, Gestational Diabetes, breastfeeding, midwifery and parental care.

Other highlights

UNFPA community health workers deployed through IMC and LRC reached out to 1,227 individuals with awareness sessions on hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, COVID-19 and pregnancy, and reproductive health.

In collaboration with WHO and MoH, UNFPA conducted a 5-day training on Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) targeting 23 health care providers from different health facilities in Tripoli.

In collaboration with MoH, UNFPA provided four Emergency Reproductive Health (ERH) kits to Ghat hospital in order to support 250 caesarian sections and miscarriages.
Five journalists win grants to implement peacebuilding initiatives in Sirte

As part of Peacebuilding Fund joint programme for Sirte, implemented jointly by UNFPA, WFP, UNDP, UNICEF, three parallel training workshops were conducted for young civil society activists who live in the outskirts of Sirte. Furthermore, as a result of an earlier call for submission of ideas, five grants were awarded to five young journalists in Sirte for conceptualizing media-focused initiatives on peace building.

Events conducted under the youth-led component of the UN75 survey campaign

On behalf of the UNCG, UNFPA launched the youth-led component of the UN75 engagement campaign in Libya. The UN75 materials and survey have been promoted across Libyan social media circles by the Y-PEER network and a group of six young influencers. On 30 November, the Y-PEER network organized an interactive workshop under the UN75 engagement campaign in Zawiya, attended by 20 young Y-PEER members from the city. The network also organized a lecture in Tripoli University on race- and skin-color-based violence, aimed at raising awareness of young people about the violence that migrants face in Libya, reaching around 30 students.

Youth for political participation in Libya

UNFPA organized the regular monthly meeting of the Youth Working Group (YWG), which inter alia is responsible for designing an action plan for UN engagement with youth in Libya, in line with UNSC Resolution 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security and the 2019-2020 UN Strategic Framework. For this meeting, as previously agreed among the YGW members, UNFPA invited two youth representatives of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF) who shared their experiences as well as their insights on how to increase youth political participation in Libya.
International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and start of the 16 Days of Activism campaign

As part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, UNFPA and its partner LibAid organized a collective session in Al Seka Detention Centre on 25 November to raise awareness on GBV and to eliminate violence against women and girls with the participation of 111 detainees including 98 women.

On 25 November, UNFPA through IMC and AlBayan conducted an event to celebrate International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women in Tripoli attended by 32 persons including 17 women.

On 25 November, as part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, UNFPA and its partners IMC and Women Union organized an awareness session in Al-Seka Detention Centre to raise awareness of GBV and to eliminate violence against women and girls with the participation of 30 women.

On 26 November, UNFPA through IMC and AlBayan org conducted an awareness session about GBV and how it is affecting the community and the possible ways of reducing it. The session engaged 29 participants including 14 females.

On 28 November, UNFPA through IMC and AlBayan conducted awareness session about GBV along with a marathon that engaged 20 women. The marathon and the awareness session were conducted in an open area of AlShat-way.

Nairobi Summit Anniversary

UNFPA Libya (UNFPA Libya) Nov 12

Kiambu County, Kenya, November 12, 2019

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has made significant progress towards achieving its goal of universal access to reproductive health and rights. In our latest report, we have highlighted our ongoing support for women’s health and rights around the world.

#UNFPAKenya #WomenEmpowerment #GlobalGoals

Let’s make a difference and stand united for women’s rights globally.

1945

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND
UN 75 Survey Campaign

COVID-19 Updates

- UNFPA Libya has been spreading Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) COVID-19 messages through health awareness-raising sessions delivered in Tripoli, Sabha and Ghat through community health workers.

- United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) coordinated and compiled an article “One UN supporting Libya to tackle COVID-19” on the response of UN agencies to tackle impacts of COVID-19 in Libya.

ONE UN supporting Libya to tackle COVID-19

Coordination and Partnership

UNFPA maintains close coordination with different stakeholders, including the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), the MoH, international and local NGOs and UN agencies on preparedness, prevention and response to COVID-19.

UNFPA leads the coordination and facilitation of the essential health services group. The working group aims to strategically plan and coordinate the maintenance of Essential Health Services (EHS) in Libya amidst the humanitarian context and COVID-19 pandemic. EHS plan was developed, presented and endorsed by the MoH to provide generic coordination and operational guidance to Libya in preparing and maintaining good quality and equitable access to essential health services, including sexual, reproductive, maternal newborn, child, and adolescent health (RMNCAH) services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNFPA continues to lead the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR), which works to ensure that minimum standards are in place to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in emergencies. In light of the ongoing health emergency and under UNFPA’s lead, the GBV sub-sector working group is working to ensure that the GBV referral pathways are updated to reflect services provided through primary and secondary health care facilities.

UNFPA also leads the Youth Working Group and co-leads the Gender Working Group and the UN Communications Group.
These interventions were possible thanks to the generous contributions from:

[Logos of various organizations]

And thanks to our partners for their instrumental support

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