Libya’s current political scene is characterised by the absence of a centralised authority. Since the uprising that overthrew the government of Muammar Qadhafi in 2011, Libya has experienced continued political instability and the spread of armed militia. The country is currently divided among three governments, namely the United Nations-backed Government of National Accord, the House of Representatives and the General National Congress. 2018 is expected to be an election year. Whether it will be the lifeline for Libya or the descent into chaos remains to be seen. The most likely scenario is a continuation of the status quo, with pockets of conflict and episodes of violence; however, further deterioration cannot be ruled out.

Civilians in Libya continue to suffer as a result of conflict, insecurity, political instability and a collapsing economy, while the country remains divided among three administrations. An estimated 1.1 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, further compounded by the desperate situation of migrants and people in need of international protection. Humanitarian activities in the country remain hazardous and unpredictable due to multiple factors including presence of unexploded ordnances and improvised explosive devices contamination, threats of abductions and kidnapping of international personnel, proliferation of armed groups with no clear chain of command, and ongoing conflict and violence. Most of southern and eastern Libya is either inaccessible or hard to reach.

Libya has long been a major transit and destination country for mixed migration patterns - interlinked with regional migration movements - including migrants, refugees, asylum-seekers, victims of trafficking and smuggling, stateless persons, as well as unaccompanied minors, separated children and other vulnerable persons on the move fleeing from poverty and conflict in their countries of origin. According to UNHCR, Libya hosts over 179,400 internally displaced people (IDPs), over 372,022 IDP returnees, and over 54,100 registered refugees and asylum seekers. The total number of migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers - including those not registered - is estimated between 700,000 and one million. Meanwhile, migrants continue to risk their lives by taking dangerous routes towards Europe, many of them perishing at sea in proportionally larger numbers. The IFRC Operational Plan 2019 for Libya was largely discussed and agreed upon with the Libyan Red Crescent Society: it aims at focusing on developing the National Society and mobilizing resources to make this possible.
NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Fighting in populated areas still continues across Libya: The ongoing conflict, civil unrest, and political instability have led to civilian casualties, damage to civilian infrastructure and displacement.

Compared to 2018, the 2019 Operational Plan introduces one new Area of Focus (disaster risk reduction) and one new Strategy for Implementation (ensuring a strong IFRC). In developing the OP 2019, the following elements were considered.

- Keeping the OP 2019 realistic and at a manageable size;
- Targeting the priority areas as recommended by the National Society;
- Maintaining the same direction as in 2018 to ensure continuity;
- Strengthening the already ongoing dialogue with Partner National Societies.

In 2018, support was granted by the Austrian Red Cross, the British Red Cross, the Norwegian Red Cross and the Swiss Red Cross, allowing the deployment of a Health Delegate and an Organisational Development Delegate. For 2019, consultation has been ensured with the ICRC and relevant PNSs: support from additional partners is expected in 2019. The plan also aims at deploying a LRCS Programme Coordinator and an IFRC Liaison Officer, both to be based in Benghazi, Libya.

AREA OF FOCUS

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

CHF 20,000 REQUIRED

There is a need to introduce a systemized long-term DRR Programme to expand the Libyan Red Crescent’s activities that will sustain the practical experiences and trustworthy relations with local authorities that the LRCS is cultivating during its Emergency Operations. For this purpose, the IFRC and the LRCS will conduct a needs assessment in some specific urban locations in 2019.

HEALTH

CHF 1,270,000 REQUIRED

The IFRC aims at strengthening the capacities of the LRCS in health-related programming to better respond to the health needs of vulnerable migrants, Internally Displaced People (IDPs) and host communities. In this light, the IFRC wishes to support the development of the LRCS's health strategy or long-term plan with a focus on improving the community health program services.

The IFRC also aims at continuing the capacity building initiatives of the LRCS in the delivery of Psychosocial Support services (PSS) and activities.

PROTECTION, GENDER AND INCLUSION

CHF 170,000 REQUIRED

The IFRC aims at supporting the LRCS in improving its emergency programming and sensitizing it to the needs of the different vulnerable populations, and training LRCS’s staff on the IFRC's Minimum Standard Commitments to Gender and Diversity in Emergency Programming.

MIGRATION

CHF 180,000 REQUIRED

The IFRC will support the LRCS in building its capacity for the delivery of psychosocial support and health care services to migrants.

STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

CHF 400,000 REQUIRED

The IFRC will continue to support the LRCS plans for NS development in the identified areas of intervention. The LRCS will be also supported to update key policies and procedures related to youth, branch development and volunteer management work as well as communication.

ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTL. DISASTER MANAGEMENT

CHF 210,000 REQUIRED

The IFRC will support with the development of a capacity building plan, where preparedness and response to migration and displacement, natural disasters, and health emergencies will be the focus. In addition, the IFRC will support the National Society with the procurement of vests and personnel safety equipment that are needed for the implementation of specific activities, especially Dead Body Management.

ENSURE A STRONG IFRC

CHF 220,000 REQUIRED

IFRC will ensure accountability to beneficiaries and its donors through improved planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects. It will work to enhance its operational effectiveness through strengthened internal communication and coordination, improved operational and financial management systems, and zero-tolerance policy for confirmed incidents of fraud.

CONTACTS

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