

Libya– Crisis

ETS Situation Report #2

Reporting period 21/12/18 to 28/02/19

World Food Programme (WFP), in its capacity as global lead of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC), is leading the Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) in Libya, responding with government, private sector and humanitarian partners on the ground to ensure a coordinated response. ETS SitReps are issued every two months.

Highlights

- The ETS requires US\$2.4 million to cover the implementation of its project plan in 2019. To date, it has received US\$550,000 meaning it is 23% funded.
- The ETS will establish customer support and Internet connectivity services and facilitate emergency community systems that are compliant with the country Security Management Team (SMT) for humanitarians at the new UN hub in Benghazi once it is operational.



View of Benghazi city

Photo: UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)

Situation Overview

More than seven years after the revolution in Libya, hundreds of thousands of people across the country live in dire conditions. To respond to the urgent humanitarian needs for 552,000 most vulnerable people living in Libya, the United Nations together with the Government of National Accord launched the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP2019), seeking US\$202 million to continue providing health support, protection, water, and shelter. Many thousands of families are unable to afford food, water and basic household items, and forced to take desperate measures just to get through these difficult times.

An estimated 823,000 people, including 248,000 children, require urgent humanitarian assistance in Libya. Hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants face grave human rights violations and abuse in the absence of rule of law.



ETS Response

- The ETS together with the UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) and UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) is preparing a national Emergency Communication Framework (ECF). The objective of the ECF is to establish the mechanism to address communications needs in the country as well as to define the modality to establish hubs outside Tripoli.
- The main communications network to be used in Libya is Ultra High Frequency (UHF) which is owned and maintained by UNSMIL. This has been agreed upon by the UN Country Team (UNCT) and will be supported by HF radio, satellite phones and mobile phones.
 - UNSMIL will deploy their UHF equipment in the UN hub in Benghazi.
- The new Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) Coordinator is now on the ground in Libya.
- The ETS is managing the sub-contractors hired to finalize work on the new UN hub in Benghazi
 - The ETS will establish customer support and Internet connectivity services and facilitate emergency community systems for humanitarians at the hub.
 - The ETS is recruiting a local telecommunications assistant to be based in Tripoli and also radio operators and an IT assistant that will be based at the UN hub in Benghazi once the Communications Centre (COMCEN) has been established.
- The ETS has updated the Concept of Operations (CONOPS) and it can be found on <https://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/libya-crisis>
- Following a Services for Communities (S4C) assessment conducted in November 2018, a common feedback mechanism for beneficiaries has been proposed. The ETS is now waiting for feedback and approval from the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) before proceeding.

Planned Response

- Provide Internet connectivity, ICT helpdesk and support the establishment of security telecommunications services to humanitarians in three common operational areas (Benghazi, Tripoli and Sebha);
- Maintain critical coordination of the ICT emergency response;
- Establish and maintain an information-sharing platform to enhance coordination and operational decision-making and support advocacy efforts; and
- Identify Services for Communities (S4C) gaps and needs to collaborate with integrated initiatives to communicate key information to and from the affected communities by providing advice to humanitarian



organisations and implementing technical solutions, such as an inter-agency feedback mechanism to enable affected communities to provide critical feedback on the assistance received.

Funding

- The ETS in Libya requires US\$2.4 million in 2019 to conduct its activities. So far, it has received US\$550,000 from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), meaning it is 23% funded.

Meetings

- The next Global ETC Joint Teleconference will be held on Wednesday 13 March 2019.
- The next Local ETS Working Group meeting will be held on 25 March 2019.

Information

- Information on the ETS in Libya can be found on: <https://www.etcluster.org/emergencies/libya-crisis>
- The latest ETS Libya Dashboard can be found here: <https://www.etcluster.org/document/ets-libya-dashboard-november-2018>

Key ETS Contacts

Libya.ETS@wfp.org

LOCATION	NAME	TITLE	EMAIL
Benghazi	Christopher Alagna	ETS Coordinator	Christopher.alagna@wfp.org
Dubai	Suzanne Fenton	Information Management Officer	Suzanne.fenton@wfp.org

Acronyms

AAP	Accountability to Affected People
CwC	Communication with Communities
DC	Deputy Commissioner
EPR	Emergency Preparedness and Response
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
HF	High Frequency
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IM	Information Management
IMO	Information Management Officer
ISP	Internet Service Provider
IT	Information Technology



MNO	Mobile Network Operator
MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
S4C	Services for Communities
TSF	Telecom Sans Frontiere
UN	United Nations
UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VHF	Very High Frequency
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
WVI	World Vision International
WFP	World Food Programme

All information related to ETC operations can be found on the ETC website: www.ETCluster.org

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact: Libya.ETS@wfp.org