

Libya– Crisis

ETS Situation Report #4

Reporting period 17/05/19 to 30/06/19

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 six weeks.

Highlights

- The ETS is providing Internet connectivity and customer support services to 51 staff at the UN hub in Benghazi which is now operational.
- The ETS has received US\$522,229 in funding from the Government of Luxembourg meaning it is 45% funded.
- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) Services for Communities (S4C) adviser conducted a mission to Tunis ahead of the implementation of the planned inter-agency call centre.



The ETS team in Benghazi

Photo: ETS/Libya

Situation Overview

The conflict in Tripoli continues with no end in sight more than two months after it began. Casualties are steadily mounting in the eastern and southern parts of the city. Reports show that there have been 178 civilian casualties of which 41 were fatalities, 105,000 displaced people, 3,800 refugees and migrants in detention centres and 56,500 people have been provided with some form of humanitarian assistance.

In mid-June, heavy flooding in south-western Libya displaced over 4,000 people and affected more than 20,000. Four people, including three children were confirmed dead as a result of the heavy rainfall and floods. Another 30 people suffered minor injuries. Humanitarian partners travelled to Ghat to survey the impact of the floods on the local community and ensure humanitarian needs are being met.



ETS Response

- The UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) has submitted a request to the Ministry of Telecommunications to add humanitarian organisations to UNSMIL's existing Tetra radio licence. The ETS on behalf of all agencies, funds and programmes in Libya will then submit a request through the Humanitarian Coordinator for VHF and HF licensing. These licences will enable humanitarians to operate security telecommunications equipment which is essential in ensuring their safety and security.
- The ETS has established a 24/7 Security Operations Centre (EOC) at the UN hub in Benghazi which is currently using only mobile phones until the licencing issue in Tripoli is resolved. The ETS is requesting permission from the authorities to build a radio tower at the UN hub and use radios.
 - To date, the SOC has tracked 251 missions.
- The ETS is currently relying on a back-up ISP connection at the UN hub to provide connectivity for approximately the more than 50 staff that are working out of the hub. The local ISP has established a new site for the ETS and installed a microwave link.
- The ETC S4C adviser recently conducted an assessment mission in Tunis ahead of the planned implementation of a hotline which remains a priority as an Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) mechanism. However, the ETS has not received any confirmed funding for the hotline.
- The ETC has participated in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) mid-year review and submitted revised narrative to reflect current and planned activities.

Planned Response

- The ETS will support the establishment of an inter-agency call centre as a way for affected populations to provide complaints and feedback about the humanitarian response.

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) and US\$522,229 received from the Government of Luxembourg means it is 45% funded.

Meetings

- The next Global ETC Joint Teleconference will be held on Wednesday 17 July 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-march-2019>

Key ETS Contacts

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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