

Libya



International Medical Corps was the first international humanitarian organization to arrive in Libya after the conflict erupted in early 2011.

Since then, we have focused on providing medical relief and gained significant in-country expertise and widespread programmatic reach by helping populations affected by conflict and natural disasters. Today, International Medical Corps supports the most vulnerable populations in Libya while strengthening the country's health system.

Shortly after Libya’s civil war began in 2011, International Medical Corps deployed teams to provide countrywide emergency medical services, train health workers and deliver vital medicines and supplies.

Starting in the country’s east, we built makeshift health facilities to provide critical care to conflict-affected populations, and moved with the front lines westward until the fighting dissipated.

As the situation progressed, we transitioned from emergency activities to programs that fostered recovery and self-reliance, targeting vulnerable populations deprived of access to basic healthcare—including internally displaced people, refugees and the growing number of migrants transiting through the country on their way to Europe. International Medical Corps supported the physical rehabilitation of health clinics, and we continue to provide medical aid to those in urgent need of care while providing a broader range of services that benefit the wider Libyan and non-Libyan populations.

Libya continued to experience political and administrative division in 2024. Despite this, International Medical Corps provided healthcare and protection in remote areas to ensure that all vulnerable populations have equal access to high-quality health services. At the same time, we have prioritized efforts to strengthen the Libyan healthcare system by building the capacity of national staff and institutions.

We have focused on supporting the early recovery of communities affected by Storm Daniel, which struck northeastern Libya in September 2023 and destroyed nearly 25% of the coastal city of Derna, and on responding to the Sudanese refugee crisis in Kufra, a remote southeastern city and the primary entry point into Libya for refugees who are fleeing the war in Sudan.

Working closely with the Libyan Ministry of Health (MoH), we deliver comprehensive health services to informal refugee settlements and support overstretched public health facilities. We also provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services; programs on the prevention of and response to violence against women and girls (VAWG); critical water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions; and capacity building for national healthcare staff.



WHERE WE WORK

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| A ALBAYADA | H NALUT |
| B ALBAYDA | I SABHA |
| C ALMAKHALI | J SOUSA |
| D BENGHAZI | K TAWERGHGA |
| E DERNA | L TOBRUK |
| F KUFRA | M TOKRA |
| G MISRATA | N TRIPOLI |



International Medical Corps has worked uninterrupted in Libya since the outbreak of the conflict in 2011 and is one of the few organizations based in the country with access to all regions.

International Medical Corps is one of the primary international humanitarian agencies providing healthcare services in Kufra following the mass influx of Sudanese refugees fleeing the war in Sudan.



MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

International Medical Corps provides MHPSS services through trained doctors who identify, manage and refer priority mental health conditions in line with guidelines from the World Health Organization. We also build the capacity of healthcare providers at the primary healthcare level on mental health topics, ensuring that they can provide MHPSS services as part of primary healthcare. To strengthen community-based MHPSS efforts, we train community focal people from different municipalities to facilitate training and awareness sessions that advocate for mental health at the community level.

We have integrated MHPSS services into our response in Kufra as part of the country's regional refugee response plan (RRP), deploying MHPSS counselors to deliver essential mental health support to vulnerable populations residing in informal settlements and at supported health facilities. We also continued to provide mental health care to people affected by the flooding in Derna, helping them to cope with the stress of the disaster and reducing the stigma around mental health in the affected areas.

HEALTHCARE

International Medical Corps operates mobile medical teams (MMTs) that provide vital healthcare services to Libyans and non-Libyans. Our MMTs are supported by community health workers who are critical in raising awareness among migrant and refugee communities about common health problems. The MMTs also organize regular training and on-the-job tutorial sessions for healthcare providers, ensuring the availability and continuity of essential services, particularly in underserved and hard-to-reach areas.



International Medical Corps is committed to strengthening the national healthcare system through our long-term partnership with the MoH. This partnership involves training healthcare workers, providing medications and medical equipment, and rehabilitating healthcare facilities to ensure the sustainability of our efforts.

As part of our response in Kufra, International Medical Corps provides essential healthcare services through MMTs deployed in public health facilities and in informal settlements. We also conduct comprehensive training for national nurses, focusing on clinical skills and service delivery in emergency settings. Additionally, we provide essential medical equipment to public hospitals to strengthen their ability to deliver and sustain basic health services for the refugees and residents of the host community. International Medical Corps co-leads the health task force under the Sudan RRP in Libya.

In addition to the refugee response, our MMTs continued to provide a range of primary and emergency health services to flood-affected communities.



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

International Medical Corps implements VAWG prevention and response programs in Libya, supporting vulnerable women and girls through awareness sessions, case management, psychosocial support and skill-building activities. We also collaborate with other organizations, local authorities and service providers to strengthen service delivery and improve access for those in need.

International Medical Corps has collaborated with three national organizations, adapted service delivery within health facilities and extended access to adolescent girls in public schools to address challenges posed by the floods. We also focused on meeting the immediate needs of women and girls affected by the floods by providing tailored psychosocial support services, and conducted regular feedback sessions and focus group discussions to ensure that our response was context-sensitive and community-driven.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE, AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

Following our emergency WASH-related response in Derna and other flood-affected areas, we shifted our focus to sustainable, capacity-building solutions to support long-term recovery. We strengthened local authorities by providing water treatment chemicals to the General Company for Water and Wastewater. Our team also supplied essential equipment and tools for municipal water system repairs and installed solar-powered water desalination units with storage tanks in the most affected neighborhoods. These interventions have helped to ensure a consistent and reliable supply of safe drinking water for those communities.



www.InternationalMedicalCorps.org

A pre-eminent first responder since 1984, International Medical Corps delivers emergency medical and related services to those affected by conflict, disaster and disease, no matter where they are, no matter what the conditions. We also train people in their communities, providing them with the skills they need to recover, chart their own path to self-reliance and become effective first responders themselves.

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