

A photograph showing the aftermath of destruction. In the background, a light-colored building with arched windows and doorways is heavily damaged, with missing sections of its facade. In the foreground, a large, gnarled, and completely leafless tree stands against the sky. The ground is covered in dry leaves, twigs, and some debris. The sky is a clear, solid blue.

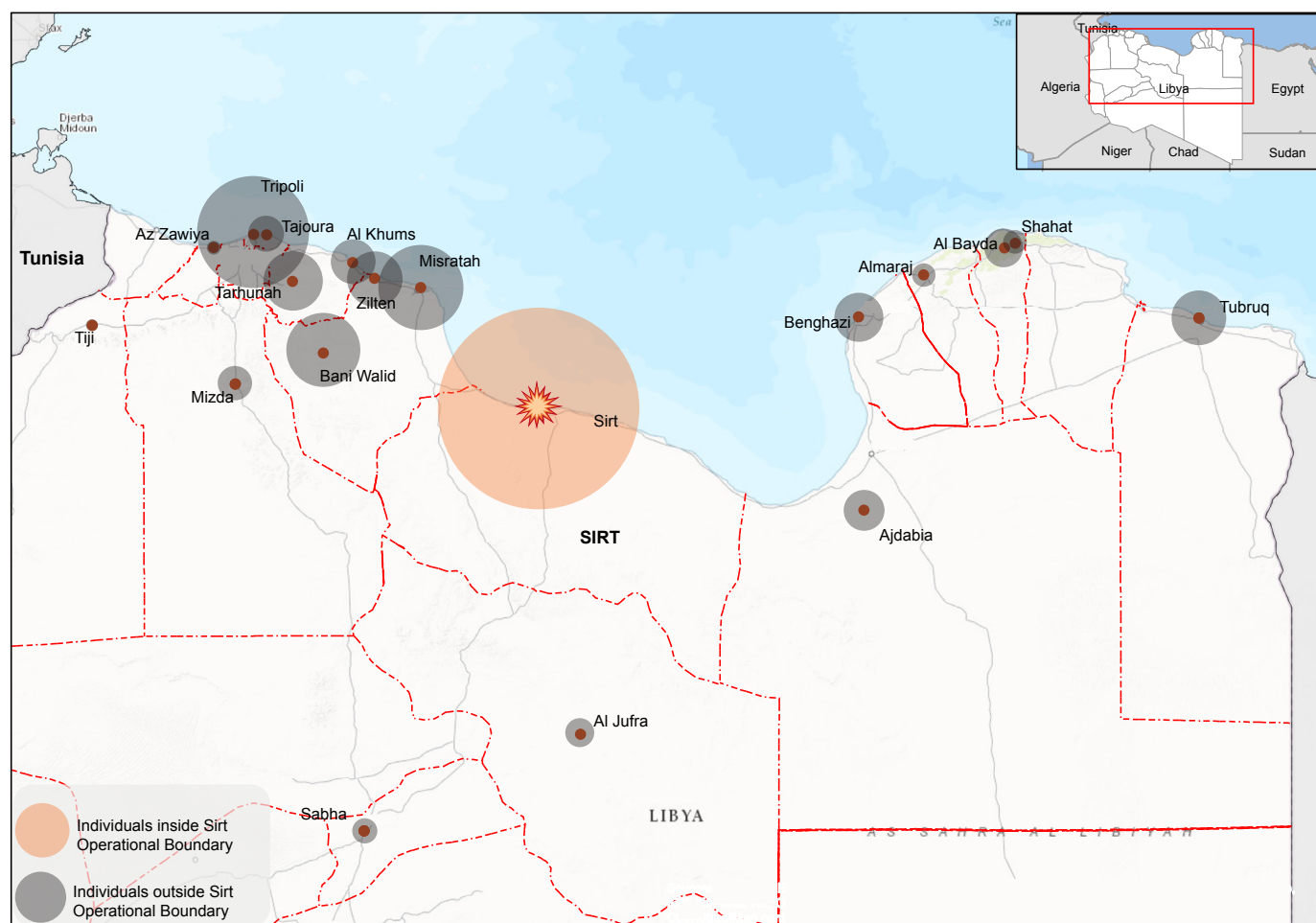
SIRT

FLASH APPEAL

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2016

Photo: Tom Westcott/IRIN

FLASH APPEAL AT A GLANCE



FUNDING REQUIRED FOR SIRT



**US \$10.7
million**

Designed to provide 79,400 people in Sirt with life-saving assistance and protection from September to December 2016.

This document is produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in collaboration with humanitarian partners in support of the national government. It covers the period from 1 September 2016 to the end of 2016 and is issued on 15 September 2016.

SIRT CRISIS RESPONSE

CRISIS OVERVIEW

The situation in Sirt has entered a new stage: Military operations against the terrorist group, the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), have triggered new displacement as well as return movements, resulting in a complex and acute humanitarian situation. Forces of Libya's Government of National Accord (GNA) commenced military operations to re-capture Sirt from ISIL in May 2016, and have since gained control of the outer Sirt municipality, as well as most parts of Sirt city. Latest reports indicate ISIL has been pushed back to the city center, and the GNA anticipates that all territory will be re-captured within weeks.

Displacement from Sirt increased significantly over the past year, as families fled harsh conditions under ISIL rule. Sirt constituted ISIL's largest stronghold outside of Iraq and Syria, following the group's take-over of the city in February 2015. Those who fled the area report severe shortages of food and medicines, looting and confiscations, and serious rights violations, including public beheadings, "crucifixions" on scaffolding and abductions. The start of military operations against ISIL in early May 2016 prompted new displacement, with people fleeing primarily to Bani Waleed, Misratah, Tarhuna, Tripoli, and Al Jufrah. An estimated 90,500 people had fled from Sirt to other parts of Libya at this stage.

As military operations advanced, pushing ISIL fighters back, families have started returning to the towns and residential areas around Sirt city. Latest data from the Sirt Crisis Committee (SCC) indicate many families have already returned, with 48,300 people estimated to currently reside within the Sirt municipality. This includes people who have returned, as well as people who had remained in the liberated areas. Estimates of the number of people still residing in Sirt City itself vary widely as active conflict continues.

Return movements are expected to continue, and are likely to accelerate once the GNA forces announce military success. Humanitarian partners anticipate that by the end of the year, some 79,400 people will be residing in Sirt municipality and certain districts of Sirt city, although much of the city itself will likely remain inaccessible for several months.

Families returning to Sirt are facing extremely difficult conditions. While the scale of damage to civilian infrastructure is not yet known, available sources indicate an urgent need for drinking water and basic supplies, including food stocks and essential household items. Health services have been severely disrupted and lack life-saving medicines. Families, many of which have been living under ISIL occupation, require targeted protection services and psychosocial support. Many homes in the outskirts have taken in additional families from unsafe parts of the city centre, straining scarce resources and overcrowding houses. Extreme adverse economic conditions are affecting all Libyans, but for displaced families who are largely without physical assets having left their homes, this is particularly devastating.

Explosive remnants of war (ERWs) and deliberately planted improvised explosive devices (IEDs) are a particular concern, and will likely render much of Sirt city inaccessible for the coming months. ERWs and IEDs contamination puts returning populations at risk of death or serious injury and will hinder reconstruction efforts. Given the need for debris clearance, mines and ERWs decontamination, it is cautioned that no large-scale returns into much of Sirt city should be permitted before the official declaration that the city has been cleared of ERWs and IEDs.



Damage to Sirt Iben Sena Hospital.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Life-saving action included in this appeal focuses on targeted emergency assistance to people located within the Sirt municipality. Based on return movements so far, the proximity of Sirt IDP locations to the municipality, as well as experience from other contexts such as Benghazi, partners anticipate significant attempts to return in the coming weeks and months, and are planning for a total population of some 79,400 people residing in Sirt and in need of support within the next four months.

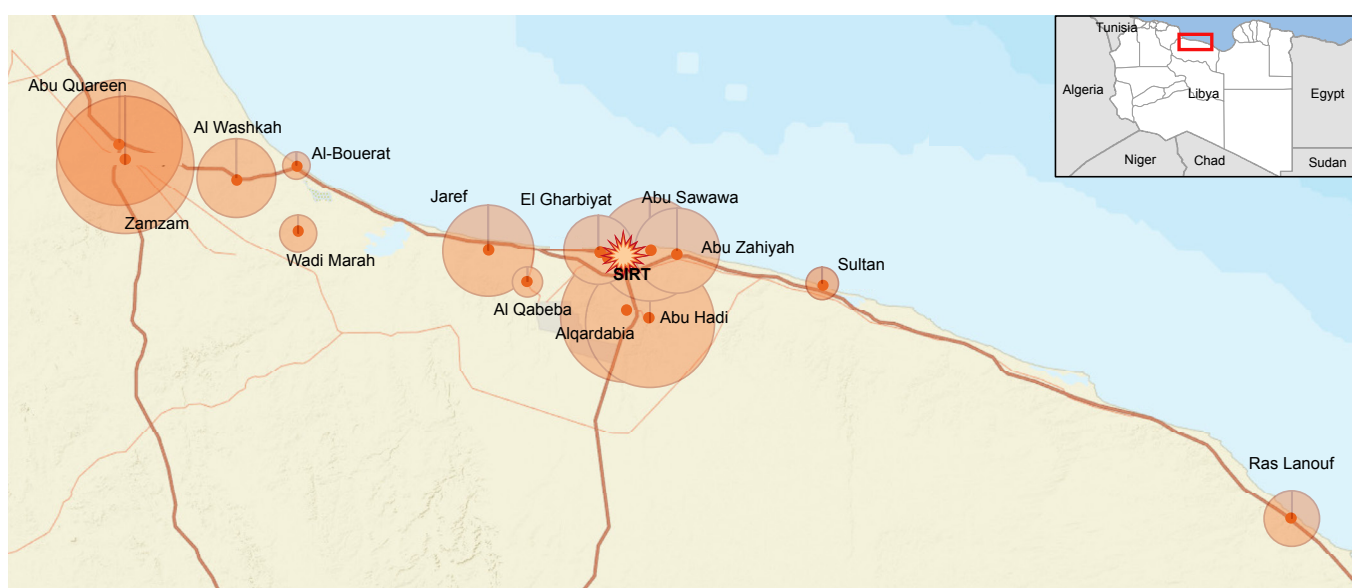
Partners are tailoring their response to flexibly meet the different and shifting needs of the target population in Sirt. While response to IDPs from Sirt in other parts of Libya is ongoing, the situation in Sirt municipality will increasingly be characterised by IDPs returning to their homes. Humanitarians are tailoring interventions to ensure the needs of this shifting caseload are met. Mine risk education is an immediate priority, alongside other key protection interventions. Access to basic services must be urgently restored to ensure conditions do not cause renewed displacement out of Sirt. A cash assistance feasibility assessment will be carried out as soon as conditions allow and market activity has resumed, with any distributions to be based on assessed needs. The specific needs of families who had remained in ISIL-held areas will be considered, including in terms of vaccination coverage, psychosocial support, and education for children who may have missed school or may have been subjected to an altered curriculum.

Sectors have identified resources and capacities that can be immediately directed to the Sirt response while fundraising, procurement and contracting processes for the Sirt appeal are initiated. The sectors have conducted operational planning to identify stocks and resources that can be redirected to the Sirt response in the short-term, in order to reach into Sirt as quickly as possible. Any stocks and resources redirected to Sirt must however be urgently replenished, so that a rapid response to Sirt does not happen to the detriment of response efforts in other parts of the country.

Until access to the city is established and the conditions are in place for safe and dignified return to all parts of Sirt, including Sirt city, the humanitarian community will continue to provide assistance to IDPs from Sirt in other parts of Libya. These needs have been largely planned for under the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan for Libya (HRP). However, the 2016 HRP is only 28 per cent funded, therefore making operations extremely under-resourced, and demanding additional urgent funding. A failure to respond adequately to displaced families' needs could risk creating pressure on families to return to Sirt prematurely, putting them at risk of ERWs and IEDs threats.

Humanitarian assistance is closely coordinated with other national and international response efforts to the situation in Sirt. Partners are coordinating and working closely with the Sirt Crisis Committee, to ensure alignment with the national response effort planned for Sirt. Remote management is the main response modality for international humanitarian actors in Libya including

MAP OF POPULATION DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIRT.



Source: Sirt Crisis Committee

Sirt. This is carried out through close coordination within the HCT, within sectors, and with national partners, ensuring adherence to humanitarian principles and standards. The Humanitarian Coordinator supported by OCHA provides leadership and overall coordination of response efforts.

Humanitarian planning for Sirt is in full alignment with stabilization, political and development plans. Under the leadership of the DSRSG/RC/HC, humanitarian, stabilization, political and development actors have defined a common anticipated scenario for Sirt, and are aligning their respective planning frameworks on the

basis of this shared situational analysis. Humanitarian life-saving assistance covered in this appeal may be complemented by a Sirt component of the UNDP Stabilisation Facility project for Libya (SFL). Actions under the SFL could include the provision of equipment to support essential services, such as ambulances, fire engines, or garbage collection trucks. The SFL will initiate an urgent conflict assessment within the next two months. This conflict assessment will complement the rapid multi-sector needs assessment to be carried out by humanitarians as soon as conditions allow. Once security conditions allow, the SFL plans to implement rehabilitation and conflict mitigation interventions.



Destroyed buildings and ERWs in Sirt. Photo: UNMAS/LibMAC

SECTOR PLANS

SECTOR TARGETING AND FLEXIBLE PLANNING

Sectors have conducted their operational planning and identified targets on the basis of anticipated needs, capacity and access to deliver inside of Sirt municipality, and what supplies can reasonably be procured and delivered within the timeframe of this appeal. In order to maximise delivery into Sirt within the next four months, sectors have identified resources and stocks that can be immediately redirected to respond in Sirt. These resources must urgently be replenished to avoid a negative impact on the response in other parts of Libya. In the sector plans below, all stocks and resources identified as ‘possible to reallocate’ for the Sirt response are therefore also included under ‘additional funding required’

OVERVIEW OF SECTOR REQUIREMENTS





Contact Information: Nisreen Rubaian (rubaian@unhcr.org)

In light of the specific protection needs of families in Sirt, who have recently returned from other parts of Libya, or who remained in Sirt during the period of ISIL control as well during recent military operations, the Protection sector will focus its response in Sirt on four key activities: ensuring mine risk awareness of all families within Sirt municipality; conducting mine clearance training, and providing equipment to local teams; providing psychosocial support and case management services; conducting GBV prevention and providing referral services for survivors; and providing specialised protection services for children.

\$5.5 million
required to reach
79,400 people

Sector partners: The Protection Sector partners with the following organisations: Al-Salam NGO, Assebel Foundation, Ayadi Al-Khair, IOM, the Sirt Crisis Committee, UNFPA, UNHCR and UNICEF.

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Number of people in need of assistance	Number of people targeted with assistance	Funding/stocks that can be temporarily allocated for rapid response in Sirte and must be replenished	Additional resources required
Conduct mine awareness activities to reduce the impact of ERW, small arms and mines within Sirt municipality.	79,400	79,400	0	\$400,000
Conduct training to the following teams to carry out activities to reduce the impact of ERW, small arms and mines within Sirt municipality: • 5 National Search Teams High Threat (Equipped & trained) • 5 National EOD/IEDD Teams High Threat (Equipped & trained) • 5 International High Threat IEDD Advisors • 3 International High Threat Search Advisors	79,400	79,400	0	\$4,000,000
Provide psychosocial support and case management for adults including vulnerable populations such as gender-based violence victims.	25,000	9,000	90,000	\$300,000
Conduct prevention activities and provide support and referral services for survivors of gender-based violence.	20,000	5,000	20,000	\$200,000
Provide specialized protection services for children.	20,000	12,000	50,000	\$550,000
TOTAL				\$5,450,000



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Contact Information: Mohammad Almjadleh (malmjadleh@unicef.org)

Due to the on-going active conflict in the Sirt, the scale of damage to water and sanitation infrastructures is yet to be assessed. However, discussions with Sirt and Misrata Crisis Committee revealed that out of the 79,000 affected people, about 39,700 people are in urgent need of basic hygiene items and 24,150 people are in need of safe water supply. The water network, which is the main supply of water in Sirt, is most likely damaged due to the conflict and requires some time to be assessed and repaired. The WASH sector will focus on meeting the immediate needs of 39,700 affected populations through emergency water trucking and distribution of basic hygiene family kits and hygiene information. The hygiene kits which contain soap and other items, will contribute to improving the health of affected people. In each hygiene kit, leaflet with hygiene information will be included to raise awareness on improved hygiene practices. In coordination with Sirt municipality, further assessments will be conducted to understand the level of damage on water and sanitation infrastructure including in schools and public buildings, and analysis water trucking market.

\$0.9 million
required to reach
39,700 people

Sector partners: The planned activities will be implemented in partnership with 1) National NGOs: Libyan Society for National Reconciliation and Charity Works, and Libyan Red Crescent; 2) the Sirt municipality; 3) the Sirt Crisis Committee.

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Number of people in need of assistance	Number of people targeted with assistance	Funding/stocks that can be temporarily allocated for rapid response in Sirte and must be replenished	Additional resources required
Provide emergency water supply through water trucking water	48,300	24,150	0	\$324,576
Distribute family hygiene kits and provide hygiene awareness information	79,400	39,700	0	\$571,680
TOTAL				\$896,256

1 Content of family hygiene kit: female sanitary pads (3 packs), children diapers (12 pcs, 4-9 Kg), hand washing soap (10 bars, 10-110gm), laundry soap (2 bags, 1 kg), jerry can (1 Pcs, 10lit), bowl for clothes washing (1 pcs, 20lit), shampoo (1 Pcs, 750ml), bath rub (2 pcs), dish washing detergent (1pcs, 750ml), sponge (4 pcs), and awareness leaflets



Food Security

Contact information: Lokule Ladowani (lokule.ladowani@wfp.org)

Due to conditions in the areas recently retaken from ISIL, with reported shortages in basic food stocks and likely lag in full resumption of market activity, food security partners will focus on two key activities: food basket distributions targeted as the most vulnerable households, and conducting food security assessments as soon as conditions allow, to inform and refine sector targeting and response.

\$1 million
required to reach
15,000 people

Sector partners: Food Security Sector partners implementing this response are STACO, which covers all surrounding areas except Benghazi; LibAid, which covers Benghazi and may expand to other areas for speedy action if requested; Ayady Al Khar: and an agreement will be signed to cover areas in central and western Libya.

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Number of people in need of assistance	Number of people targeted with assistance	Funding/stocks that can be temporarily allocated for rapid response in Sirte and must be replenished	Additional resources required
Provide life-saving food assistance through food basket distributions, designed to cover 75% of nutrition needs, to people within Sirt municipality.	20,000	15,000	0	\$936,000
Conduct food assessments where conditions allow.	n/a	n/a	0	\$50,000
TOTAL				\$986,000



Contact information: Dr. Ishtiaq Bashir (bashiris@who.int)

With health services in Sirt severely disrupted and the central hospital no longer functional (the Ibn-Sina central hospital of Sirt used to have a capacity of 320 beds, eight operating rooms and eight intensive care beds), health sector partners are focusing on two priority activities: mobilising the necessary human resources for the continuation of health services, including doctors, nurses and mental health experts; and providing health supplies to the Sirt health facilities.

\$1.5 million
required to reach
79,400 people

Sector partners: Health Sector implementing partners for the Sirt response are the Libyan Ministry of Health, which is in charge of the referral hospitals and PHC facilities, and International Medical Corps (IMC) Libya.

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Number of people in need of assistance	Number of people targeted with assistance	Funding/stocks that can be temporarily allocated for rapid response in Sirte and must be replenished	Additional resources required
Immediate mobilization of health human resources (doctors, nurses, logisticians, mental health experts) for the continuation of health care services.	79,400	79,400	0	\$372,824
Provide basic and supplementary Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK), trauma kits (A and B) and Emergency Obstetric Care kits for the health facilities in Sirt municipality.	79,400	79,400	0	\$905,984
Provide life-saving medicines, equipment and supplies, including transportation, in Sirte municipality.	120,000	79,400	PHC Centres - 11 PHC Units - 29 Polyclinic - 1	\$234,300
TOTAL				\$1,513,108



Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items

Contact Information: Julien Peschmann (peschman@unhcr.org)

In response to the specific needs of families in Sirt, who have recently returned from displacement in other parts of Libya, or who remained in Sirt during the period of ISIL control as well as during recent military operations, the Shelter and NFI Sector will focus its response in Sirt on three key activities: providing tailored NFI kits to vulnerable populations; providing emergency shelter within damaged areas; assessing the feasibility of cash assistance in Sirt, once conditions allow.

\$1.1 million
required to reach
12,500 people

Sector partners: Within the Shelter Sector Working Group, several international and Libyan actors are operating in Libya, some of them have a presence, the others are working through local partners; among them: UNHCR, IOM, DRC, IMC, LIBAID, STACO, ACTED, CESVI, SCI, MERCY CORPS, DCA.

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Number of people in need of assistance	Number of people targeted with assistance	Funding/stocks that can be temporarily allocated for rapid response in Sirte and must be replenished	Additional resources required
Provide tailored kits of essential non-food items to respond to the needs of displaced people who have recently returned to/ did not leave Sirt and surrounding areas.	79,400	12,500	\$800,000 (reallocation - 1,250 NFI Kits from UNHCR; 1,250 NFI Kits from IOM)	\$800,000 (to replenish reallocated stocks)
Provide emergency shelter to the most vulnerable people within damaged areas of Sirt municipality.	Tbd by rapid assessment	1,000	\$94,000 USD (reallocation - 200 family tents)	\$94,000 (to replenish reallocated stocks)
Assess market conditions and feasibility of cash assistance within Sirt municipality and surrounding areas.	n/a	n/a	0	\$200,000
TOTAL				\$1,094,000

Education

Contact information: Nasser Kaddoura (nkaddoura@unicef.org)

Due to the on-going conflict in Sirt, the number of schools and the number of children affected by the conflict are yet to be assessed and identified. However, the information received from the Sirt Regional Education Office,² (as of August 2016) indicates that out of the 126 schools in the Sirt municipality two schools (one primary and one secondary) are partially damaged, six schools (five primary and one secondary) are completely damaged, 44 schools need minor rehabilitation while 80 schools need major rehabilitation. Thus 98 per cent of schools in the Sirt municipality need rehabilitation/maintenance affecting around 30,000 primary and secondary students. There are credible reports that the education of many children has been interrupted. In addition to addressing the issue of out of school children, the local council reported the lack of psychosocial programmes for children affected by the conflict and displacement.

\$0.7 million
required to reach
7,500 children

In response to the specific needs of children affected by conflict in Sirt the education sector will focus on two key programme areas: 1) Supporting out of school children to return back to learning by providing conducive and child friendly environments for teaching and learning through minor rehabilitation to the schools, including WASH facilities, providing education-in-emergency supplies (recreational kits, school in box and teachers kits) to the students and teachers to support the teaching/learning process through formal and non-formal education, and capacity building of teachers through training on education in emergencies minimum standards; 2) Provide Mine Risk Education sessions to the students and teachers in the schools.

Sector partners: Education in emergency partners in Sirt municipality are Boy Scouts and Girls Guides of Libya, and the Ministry of Education office at Sirt Municipality.

PRIORITY ACTIONS	Number of people in need of assistance	Number of people targeted with assistance	Funding/stocks that can be temporarily allocated for rapid response in Sirte and must be replenished	Additional resources required
Provide recreational, remedial and catch up classes.	30,000 ³ children	7,500 children	0	\$262,500
Restore functionality of damaged schools by conducting light maintenance as per assessment @ US\$33,000 per school.	44 schools are damaged	11 schools to be maintained	0	\$363,000
Distribute back to learning and recreational materials for school children @\$350 per kit (each kit benefit 90 children – 85 kits needed).	30,000 children	7,500 children	0	\$29,750
Conduct Mine Risk Education for students (primary & secondary) @ \$10 per students including printing of awareness and advocacy material.	30,000 children	7,500 children	0	\$75,000
Provide teachers kits (Math and Science) for 22 schools, 2 teacher's kits per school.	44 schools	22 teacher kits	0	\$7,700
TOTAL				\$737,950

² Regional Education Office Director at Sirte governorate who takes full responsibility of all education matters in the area.

³ As a result of conflicts in Sirte, the majority of students in Sirte, which are estimated to reach 27,817 students (MoE, 2014 data) are all affected. Accordingly the estimated number of affected children who are in need of assistance in Sirte are 30,000.



GUIDE TO GIVING

To humanitarian action in line with the Sirt preliminary response Flash Appeal

CONTRIBUTING TO THE FLASH APPEAL

To see the Flash Appeal, and donate directly to the country plan, view the specific country pages on the humanitarian response.info website. Each country plan has links to online information on participating organizations and persons to contact concerning donations.

www.humanitarianresponse.info/

DONATING THROUGH THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (CERF)

CERF provides rapid initial funding for life-saving actions at the onset of emergencies and for poorly funded, essential humanitarian operations in protracted crises. The OCHA-managed CERF receives contributions from various donors – mainly governments, but also private companies, foundations, charities and individuals – which are combined into a single fund. This is used for crises anywhere in the world. Find out more about the CERF and how to donate by visiting the CERF website: www.unocha.org/cerf/our-donors/how-donate

IN-KIND RELIEF AID

The United Nations urges donors to make cash rather than in-kind donations, for maximum speed and flexibility, and to ensure the aid materials that are most needed are the ones delivered. If you can make only in-kind contributions in response to disasters and emergencies, please contact: mnawar@un.org.

REGISTERING AND RECOGNIZING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

OCHA manages the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported humanitarian contributions (cash, in-kind, multilateral and bilateral) to emergencies. Its aim is to give credit and visibility to donors for their generosity to show the total amount funding and resource gaps in humanitarian appeals. Please report your contributions to FTS, either by email to fts@un.org or through the on-line contribution report form at: <http://fts.unocha.org>