

July 2021

Key figures

42,458 registered refugees and asylum-seekers* in Libya¹

6,853 individuals registered in 2021

2,817 individuals covered with Protection Needs Assessments

383 individuals covered with Best Interest Assessments

310 individuals covered with Psycho-Social Support

6,338 individuals departed Libya for solutions outside of Libya since November 2017

189 urban refugees departed for solutions out of Libya in 2021 (715 in 2020)

¹ data as of 1 July 2021.

*The number includes refugees registered in detention.

UNHCR opened its new Registration Centre in April 2021. The new Centre provides an expanded and improved home for UNHCR protection activities, including Registration, Community-Based Protection, Refugee Status Determination, and Durable Solutions.

Registration

Registration and identification are key to the protection of refugees. At registration, staff collect biodata, assign unique case numbers, identify protection needs, and record information in UNHCR's global registration database. Each asylum-seeker is enrolled in UNHCR's **Biometric Identity Management System (BIMS)**, using a combination of iris scans and fingerprints. This global tool establishes a unique identity for each person seeking international protection, facilitates the transfer of data between country operations and ensures that assistance is provided to identified individuals reducing the risks of fraud. Each adult asylum-seeker is issued a **UNHCR Asylum-Seeker Certificate** printed on secure paper that includes a photograph and basic biodata serving as evidence that the certificate-holder enjoys protection under UNHCR's mandate.



Reception and waiting area at the UNHCR Office, Serraj. ©UNHCR/M. Alalem

Community-Based Protection (CBP)

Most **Community-Based Protection services** are provided by UNHCR and partners at the Community Day Centre (CDC) in Tripoli, a facility dedicated to this purpose. A UNHCR Protection Desk is in operation at the Registration Centre in Serraj to address protection concerns identified during registration and other processes. Protection staff complete Protection Needs Assessments (PNAs) and refer individuals to partner organizations for cash support, legal assistance, medical care, child protection interventions and other services. PNAs also contribute to durable solutions processing by serving as the basis for the identification of cases for resettlement and humanitarian evacuation.

Refugee Status Determination (RSD)

The Registration Centre hosts UNHCR's **Refugee Status Determination (RSD)** process, by which UNHCR determines whether a person seeking international protection is a refugee under international law. Asylum-seekers are interviewed by UNHCR experts to determine eligibility for refugee status, a requirement for all resettlement countries. RSD experts also undertake eligibility Interviews to determine whether an individual meets the eligibility criteria for referral to Emergency Transit Mechanisms (ETMs) in Niger and Rwanda or to other humanitarian corridors. RSD interviews may be undertaken in person by staff in Tripoli, or via secure digital video conferencing facilities with staff sitting in Tunis.

Durable Solutions

Durable Solutions processing is a critical component of UNHCR activities at the Serraj Registration Centre. Durable solutions comprise UNHCR-supported resettlement to third countries directly from Libya or through humanitarian evacuation to Evacuation Transit Mechanisms in Niger or Rwanda or referral to IOM's Voluntary Humanitarian Return programme of those who wish to return home. Since November 2017, a total of 6,388 refugees and asylum-seekers have departed from Libya on resettlement (1,747) or humanitarian evacuation (4,641, including 3,318 to Niger, 808 to Italy, 515 to Rwanda).