2011

[INTER-AGENCY CHILD PROTECTION RAPID ASSESSMENT]

Rapid assessment of the protection risks for Libyan children and their families displaced in Tataouine, Médenine and Gabès Gouvernorats, Southern Tunisia

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Acronyms

BBC	British Broadcasting Corporation
CPIE	Child Protection in Emergencies
CPWG	Child Protection Working Group
DRC	Danish Refugee Council
ERW	Explosive Remnants of War
GBV	Gender-based Violence
HRW	Human Rights Watch
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
JMACT	Joint Mine Action Coordination Team
MAF	Ministère des Affaires de la Femme, de la Famille, de l'Enfance et des personnes âgées
MAG	Mine Action Group
MAS	Ministère des Affaires Sociales
NTC	National Transitional Council
ONFP	Office National de la Fami lie et de la Population
PCWG	Protection Cluster Working Group
RE	Risk Education
SCR	Security Council Resolution
TRC	Tunisian Red Crescent
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WFP	World Food Programme

Executive Summary

Background

The current crisis in Libya, which started in mid-February 2011, has caused thousands of people to be internally displaced within Libya's borders and thousands more to flee into neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), 906,213 persons (including 647,939 Libyans and 203,862 third country nationals (TCNs)) are said to have crossed the border into Tunisia since 20 February 2011, and 458,381 people (including 247,167 Libyans, 128,029 Egyptians and 83,185 TCNs) have entered into Egypt through the Saloum border crossing between February and August 25, 2011. Of the Libyans that have come to Tunisia, an estimated 90,000 remain, whilst 199,786 of the third country nationals have been repatriated, leaving just over 4,000 TCNs in Tunisia at present.

Humanitarian actors have responded to the displacement in Tunisia with the establishment of camps near the Ras Ajdir and Dehiba border crossings in which the populations have had access to food, non-food items and a variety of protection services. The child protection response in the camp-based populations in Ras Ajdir has included the identification, documentation and support for unaccompanied and separated children; supporting birth registration; and the establishment of child-friendly spaces.

The majority of the Libyans in Tunisia, however, have chosen not to reside in camps but with the host community in urban and rural areas. Since the onset of the crisis, local and national associations and organisations have been responding to the urban displacement with food and non-food item distributions, and recently international organisations also began supporting the relief effort for the displaced population. Since there have not only been a few child protection related activities undertaken by actors for the urban and rural displaced in the southern Tunisian gouvernorats, the Child Protection sub-Working Group for Tunisia, based in Zarzis, decided to undertake a rapid child protection assessment in three gouvernorats with the highest number of Libyan nationals, namely Tataouine, Médenine and Gabès.

Assessment Methodology

On behalf of the Child Protection sub-Working Group in Zarzis, a member of the CPWG Rapid Response Team (RRT) led the assessment process supported by UNICEF, UNFPA and Save the Children in-country. From beginning to end, the assessment process took place from July 12 – August 29, 2011, this includes the steps from hiring and training the assessors to the report writing.

The objectives of the Child Protection rapid assessment were two-fold: First of all, to determine the scale of the needs and protection risks for children affected by the displacement caused by the Libyan crisis; and Secondly, to determine potential and actual capacities within the communities to respond to the existing risks and needs. In terms of the tools used for data collection, the Child Protection rapid assessment used the *CPWG Child Protection Rapid Assessment Toolkit* which includes tools for the desk review, key informant interviews, direct observation and site reports. The tools were contextualised and used in both Arabic and French – the key informant interviews and direct observation tools were completed in Arabic whilst the site reports were compiled In French.

The assessment team consisted of three teams of three assessors each who collected the data in the 16 different sites from August 1-5, 2011. (Note that no data was collected in one of the sites visited, Dehiba camp, since families were no longer there when the assessment team visited. Therefore data is only available for 15 sites.) The assessors were selected from participants who had attended a UNICEF and Save the Children training on child protection in emergencies earlier in the year and included: 4 Independent social workers, 2 Assistant social workers with Ministry of Social Affairs (MAS), 1 Animatrice d'Enfants, 1 Psychologist with the Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs (MAF), and 1 Inspéctrice with MAF.

Purposive sampling, a type of non-probability sampling, was selected as the most appropriate type of sampling for this rapid assessment since exact numbers and locations of the population are not available, and since there was insufficient time to visit the number of households needed for statistical significance to use random sampling.

The 16 sites visited were a selection of rural and urban areas, and camps in the gouvernorats. In total, 13% of the sites visited over the five day period were camps, 50% of the sites were rural and 37% of the sites were urban. In Tunisia, gouvernorats are divided into administrative units of délégations, municipalités and secteurs or imadats.The sample grid was put together based on the numbers of Libyans registered in each délégation by UNHCR and information available about which secteurs within the délégations are urban and rural.

In total, the assessment team conducted key informant interviews with 104 key informants in the sites visited. Per site, a minimum of three key informants interviews were conducted. In terms of the methodology used to identify Libyan families who were the main key informants, local representatives of MAS, the Delegates responsible for Child Protection under the MAF (Délègues à la Protection de l'Enfance) and representatives of Tunisian Associations supporting Libyan families assisted in identifying key informants in each location. Once a family had been identified, snowball sampling was used to identify further Libyan families in each site.

A number of limitations accompanied this rapid assessment, including the timing of the field visits during the first week of Ramadan (August 1-5, 2011) and the limited number of days available overall for the field visits. Given the rapidly changing context, priority was given for this assessment to take place quickly and have the findings available quickly as opposed to increased coverage. Limited availability of information regarding the situation of children in Libya also restricted the ability of the team for thorough contextual analysis. A last limitation was the fact that neither the assessment team members nor the drivers accompanying the teams were familiar with all of the locations visited.

Key Assessment Findings (pg. 18-31)

Overall, the numbers of Libyan families in all of the sites without exception was significantly lower than what the assessment team expected based on UNHCR's registration data from July 2011. In some cases, such as Dehiba camp, for example, not one single Libyan family remained. This is said to be the case primarily for two reasons: 1, many families returned to their homes in Libya for the Ramadan period; 2, the beginning of the assessment coincided with a series of military gains by the pro-revolutionary groups in terms of areas under their control in western Libya. Families keen to return did so as soon as they had indications that their towns were 'liberated'.

The key assessment findings relating specifically to issues of child protection can be summarised as follows:

Separated and unaccompanied children
- When asked whether there are separated children in the community as a result of the crisis in Libya, the majority of respondents (73%) suggested there are children living with extended family members and not their usual caregivers due to the crisis in Libya, as opposed to 27% who suggested that there are no separated children in the community. With regards to unaccompanied children, less than half of the key informants, 40%, said that there are children in the community living with adults who were neither their usual caregivers nor their extended family members, whilst 33% said there are no such children in the community.
- Even though adoption is illegal in Libya and a form of fostering called Kafalah is used instead, 73% of the key informants asked suggested that they had heard of adults wishing to adopt a child since the beginning of the crisis in Libya. These were cases of Tunisian and Libyan adults wishing to adopt a Libyan child in Tunisia.
- According to the key informants interviewed, 87% said that they have heard of children who had disappeared or who had gotten lost since the beginning of the crisis in Libya.

Threats to Children's Physical Safety and Security
- Key informants were asked to describe the main threats to children's physical safety and security in the sites they were currently residing in. The main risks included diseases (29%), small animals or insects including scorpions (29%), dangerous places such as water wells (13%), dangerous objects such as electrical cables (13%), small arms and weapons (10%) and car accidents (3%).
- In terms of the places in the sites that presented the greatest environmental risks to children, key informants said these where: on the way to the market (35%), at home (22%), at the marketplace (19%), on the way to school (16%), at school (5%) and nowhere (3%).
- In addition to considering the types of environmental risks children face, key informants were also asked to identify the types of violent risks that children face since the beginning of the crisis in Libya.

The greatest risk was said to be posed by armed groups (21%), followed by mines and explosive remnants of war (17%), sexual violence (17%), and criminal acts (17%). Domestic violence was mentioned as the fourth biggest risk for children with 11%, followed by attempted suicide (8%), pregnancy complications (5%) and political and civil violence with 3%.

Sexual and Gender-based Violence

- In accordance with their cultural and social norms, Libyan women and men exercise a high level of 'discretion' when discussing issues relating to sexuality, particularly issues of sexual and gender-based violence. Nonetheless, when asked whether there had been an increase in the number of gender-based violence cases since the beginning of the crisis in Libya, all of the key informants responded with 'yes'. For sexual violence, the response was similar except for one male respondent in Essmar who said that sexual violence never occurs.

- Key informants suggested that sexual violence most often occurred during attacks from armed groups (38%), at home (17%), during demonstrations (14%), whilst playing in open areas in the camp or village area (10%), in public places such as the showers in the camps (7%) and during distributions (7%). The women spoke predominantly of the fear of sexual violence at the hands of Gaddafi's militia. Many talked of sexual violence being a part of the attacks the militia carried out on the villages.

Children Associated with Armed Groups

- According to 93% of key informants, there are children who are associated with armed groups (whilst 7% said there were no children associated with armed groups) and according to 93% of key informants there has been an increase in the number since the beginning of the crisis in Libya in February 2011 (whilst 7% said they were unsure).

- The key informants suggested that boys as young as 13 years were joining the armed groups voluntarily. In terms of the process for joining the armed groups, key informants suggested that there were a few different ways this occurred: some boys, especially adolescents, joined their fathers in the pro-revolutionary groups; some boys left their families on their own to join the pro-revolutionary and pro-Gaddafi groups; some boys were kidnapped and forced into the armed groups; and lastly, some families were offered money by Gaddafi's militia for their sons to join.

- The roles of children involved with the armed groups was described by key informants as follows: for the revolutionary groups, children under 18 were said to play an important role in surveillance, fetching water for the troops, bringing food to the fighters and collecting wood. They were described as being 'prepared for combat' but not actually engaged in combat yet. According to key informants, the children engaged with Gaddafi's militia, however, were used in direct combat and were even said to be used in the very front line in front of adults.

Psychosocial Distress

- In the majority of the sites, parents of children described to assessors signs of psychosocial distress they had identified in their children. Symptoms described included children having nightmares, not sleeping well, acting 'clingy' and not wanting to let their parents out of their sight, acting edgy and jumpy and in a number of cases parents said that the behaviour and language of their children was more aggressive than before.

- According to parents, the biggest source of fear reported by their children since the beginning of the crisis in Libya was: attacks (16%), sexual violence (13%), nightmares (11%), abduction (11%), forcible recruitment (10%), not being able to return home (10%), not being able to go to school (10%), tensions within the family (8%), being separated from family members (6%), being separated from friends (5%), losing belongings (5%).

- The main sources of stress for the parents, on the other hand, were first of all worry about the security of their children, not having an income, a lack of food, having lost belongings, being separated from family members, rumours circulating, a lack of shelter and lastly a lack of information was identified by parents as a source of stress.

Access to Education

- Libyan families that remain in Tunisia will face the question of what to do about their children's education once the summer break is over and schooling resumes in September. Even though the Tunisian Ministry of Education has decreed that schools need to be open to and welcome Libyan students, it remains to be seen how well this will work. Given that the Tunisian school system uses a different curriculum and is taught in part in a language that is unknown to most Libyan children, this will be challenging. As part of the rapid assessment, the assessment teams asked key informants whether Libyan parents would support their children to attend school in Tunisia. The reply was a resounding 'yes'. 100% of key informants asked said they would not hesitate to send their children to local schools should they still be in Tunisia in September for the beginning of the new school year.

Recommendations (pg. 31-32)

Based on the findings of the Child Protection rapid assessment, a number of recommendations were made. Some of the main recommendations include:

- Monitor the WFP vouchers to see if families are able to address the gap in age-appropriate food and non-food items for children raised earlier.

- Develop stronger linkage between the Zarzis based Child Protection sub-Working Group for Tunisia and the Protection Cluster for the Libyan Crisis. Contingency and response planning should be carried out with the inputs of both groups. Stronger linkage should also be developed between the Child Protection sub-Working Group for Tunisia and the Child Protection sub-Cluster in Benghazi. Regular information sharing as well as the sharing of materials and response plans would be beneficial.

- Develop a child protection monitoring system for Tunisia and Libya built on a network of individuals, organisations and government departments such as MAS and MAF who already have a presence in different locations in western Libya and Tunisia who could regularly provide information on the situations as well as child protection risks and issues of concern.

- Follow up with the Libyan Red Crescent about whether they have more information about the children said to be orphaned in Libya and brought to Tunisia. Continue to follow-up with authorities and associations to find out more about the children who were said to be brought to hospitals in Kébili and Douze and a children's centre in Djerba.

- At the national level, follow-up with the authorities in charge of adoptions to find out more about adoptions that are or may have taken place. Further information is required on where they occurring, through what mechanism and what risks are presented for children in the process.

- Provide capacity building to the border monitors in Dehiba and Ras Ajdir to identify separated children entering into, and leaving Tunisia. Specific procedures, as part of the existing mechanism in Ras Ajdir, could be drafted together with the Délègues a la Protection de l'Enfance on what to do if separated children are identified at the border. This could be replicated in Dehiba.

- Based on gaps identified with UNHCR and MAG, develop and support additional Risk Education activities for children and their families in the southern Tunisian gouvernorats. Linkages with Handicap International in Benghazi could be pursued who have carried out mine risk awareness work in Libya and have developed material for distribution.

- Similar to the UNHCR western Libya mission to Sfax and Djerba in May, 2011, regular visits to hospitals and medical centres in Médenine, Tataouine and Gabès should be undertaken and contact with medical personnel strengthened to gain a better insight into the situation of the GBV cases received at the hospitals.

- Build the capacity building of service providers, including medical personnel, on how to identify and respond to sexual and gender-based violence against adults as well as children.

- Develop an advocacy strategy with child protection members of the CP sub-Working Group in Tunisia, the CP sub-Cluster in Benghazi as well as members of the Protection Cluster for Libya on the association of children and armed groups. Messages should be tailored to actors party to the conflict, donor governments and other humanitarian actors, based on systematic information collected and updated on an on-going basis.

- For psychosocial support, provide support to Libyan parents reassuring them that many of the behaviours their children are exhibiting are normal given their experiences and the situation they are faced with. Awareness raising through sessions, using the outreach workers or distribution of

materials about the signs and symptoms children show after distressing events would be helpful. For cases needing specialist referral, map out specialist actors and facilities available in southern Tunisia.

- Age-appropriate and, where required, sex-segregated activities should be organized by organizations active in the areas where Libyan refugees are being hosted. Activities for youth and adolescents, for example, should be considered as there are no activities for this age group in most areas.

- Identify ways organisations such as Save the Children, ATSR and/or ONFP could raise awareness amongst camp-based and urban populations on sexual and reproductive health as was requested by two key informants in Remada camp.

1. Background and Context

A series of events from mid-February 2011 onwards, including peaceful protests in Benghazi against the arrest of a human rights lawyer and outspoken government critic, Fathi Terbil, which were met with military force under Colonel Muammar Gaddafi[1], Head of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya state since 1969, have led the country into a state of crisis. Coupled with other confrontations, these initial protests, which may well have been inspired by recent events in Egypt and Tunisia, have become an uprising which has spread across the country and continues into its seventh month. Control of the eastern parts of the country was taken over by the revolutionary forces within the a few weeks of the uprising, and a National Transitional Council (NTC) based in Benghazi was formed end of February to represent the anti-Gaddafi front. Fighting for control of the western parts of Libya[2] including the capital Tripoli, continue.

The uprisings and ensuing attempts by Colonel Gaddafi to brutally suppress these, have caused death, destruction and widespread displacement. In response to the deteriorating situation in Libya, which United Nations Security Council members[3] described as 'gross and systematic violations of human rights' against the civilian population[4], Security Council Resolutions (SCR) 1970 and 1973 were passed on 26 February and 17 March 2011 respectively. These Resolutions imposed sanctions against the Government of Libya and authorized the taking of all necessary measures, including military interventions, to ensure the protection of civilians in the country. In addition to the UN Security Council, other intra-governmental structures including the League of Arab States, the African Union, and the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference have all condemned the serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law that have been and are being committed in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

1.1 Displacement of Libyan nationals

Thousands of people have been internally displaced within Libya's borders whilst thousand more have fled into neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 906,213 persons (including 647,939 Libyans and 203,862 third country nationals (TCNs)) are said to have crossed the border into Tunisia since 20 February 2011[6]; and 458,381 people (including 247,167 Libyans, 128,029 Egyptians and 83,185 TCNs) have entered into Egypt through the Saloum border crossing between February and August 25, 2011[7]. Of the Libyans that have come to Tunisia, an estimated 90,000 remain[8], whilst

	Cumulative Figure since Feb. 20, 2011	Figure on 17 August 2011
Third Country Nationals (TCNs)	203,682	49
Libyan nationals	610,281	1,4478
Tunisian nationals	81,449	118
Total Number of border crossings	895,412	2,670

Table 1: Number of Persons entering into Tunisia at Ras Ajdir and Dehiba border points (arrivals only)[5]

199,786 of third country nationals have been repatriated, leaving just over 4,000 TCNs in Tunisia at present.

In Tunisia, in response to the large numbers of persons crossing the border, camps were established close to the two border entry points: Ras Ajdir to the north and Dehiba to the south, to provide shelter to those displaced. The camps that were established close to Ras Ajdir in the gouvernorat of Médenine include Shousha camp run by UNHCR, Al Hayet camp run by Islamic Relief and UNHCR, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) camp. In the southern gouvernorat of Tataouine, the camps that have been established are the UNHCR Remada Camp, the UAE camp in Dehiba and the Qatar camp in Tataouine town.

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[1] British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), 16 February 2011, "Libya Protests: Second city Benghazi hit by violence". Available at: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12477275

[2] Although under Gaddafi the country is referred to as Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Transitional National Council (TNC) uses the name Libya or Libyan Republic.

[3] Note that although SCR 1970 was a measure adopted unanimously, in voting upon SCR 1973, however, 10 members were in favour and 5 abstained.

[4] See United Nations SCR 1973, 17 March 2011.

[5] IOM, *Movements Update: August 17, 2011*.

[6] UNHCR, *Southern Tunisia: Weekly Update, Issue #5*. August 22, 2011.

[7] IOM, *Daily Statistical Report: Migration Crisis from Libya*. 25 August 2011.

[8] UNHCR, *Southern Tunisia: Weekly Update, Issue #5*. August 22, 2011.

Camp populations in Southern Tunisia as of July 13, 2011

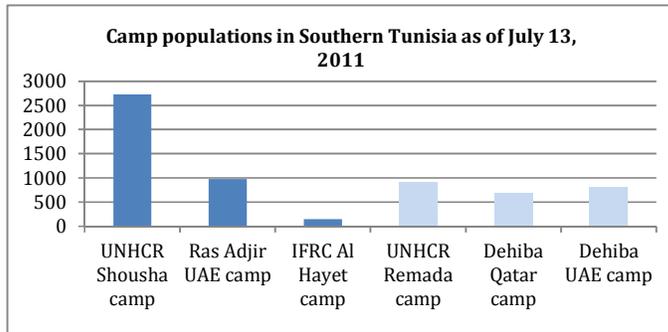|	UNHCR Shousha camp	Ras Adjir UAE camp	IFRC Al Hayet camp	UNHCR Remada camp	Dehiba Qatar camp	Dehiba UAE camp

Figure 1: UNHCR Registered camp populations as of July13, 2011

Although there have been fluctuations in the camp populations over the past few months, it is possible to say that generally speaking the persons residing in the camps in Médenine (represented in dark blue in Figure 1) have been third country nationals whereas the populations in the camps in Tataouine gouvernorat have been predominantly, but not exclusively, Libyan nationals (represented in light blue in Figure 1).

Even where these camps exist, however, the overwhelming majority of Libyans in Tunisia have chosen not to reside in them, but to seek accommodation amongst the host communities in urban and rural areas in Tataouine, Médenine and Gabès gouvernorats. Libyans share strong economic, social and cultural ties with Tunisia and have been welcomed and generously supported by their neighbours since the beginning of the crisis in Libya in February 2011. According to UNHCR, less than 1% of the Libyan population in Tunisia is accommodated in the three camps in Tataouine.[9] In terms of Libyans staying outside of the camps amongst the host community, UNHCR estimated, in July 2011 when the planning was underway for this assessment, that there are approximately 21,200 Libyan nationals in Tataouine, 13,500 in Médenine and 4,300 in Gabès.[10] OCHA Map 205 below illustrates where the Ras Ajdir and Dehiba border points and camps are located.

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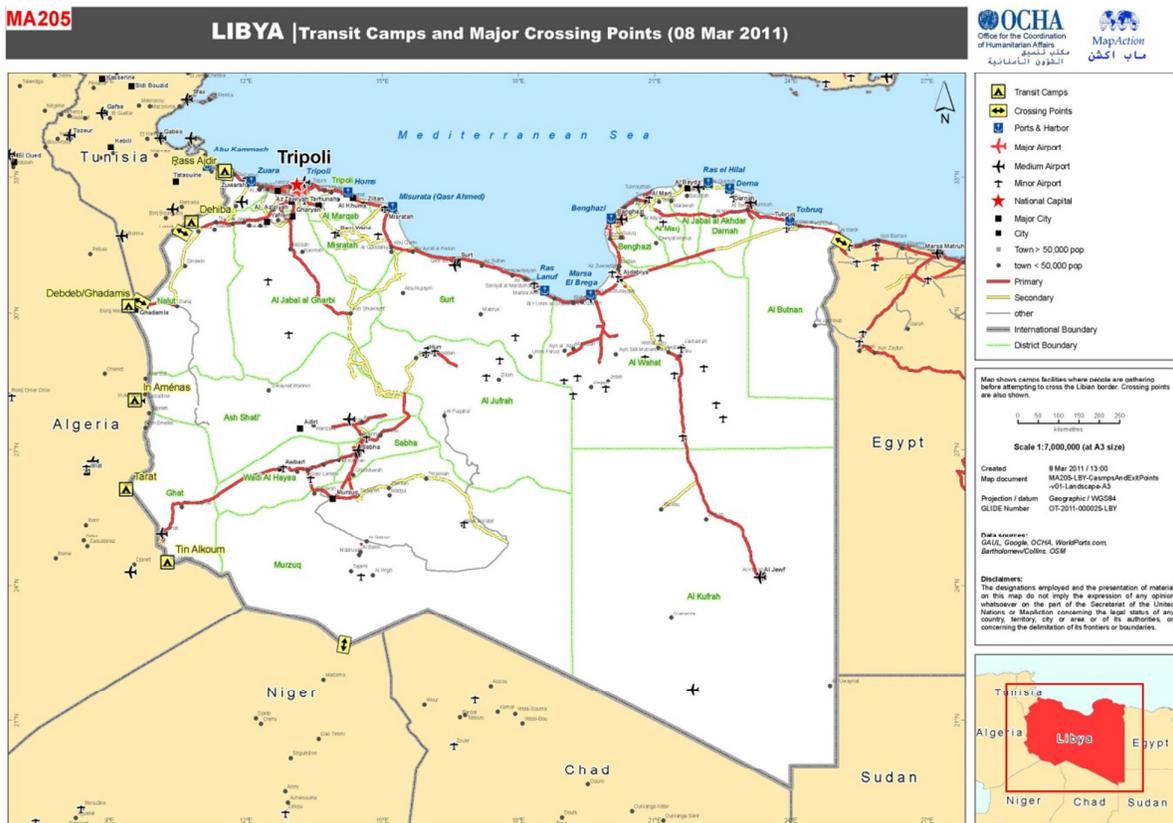
[9] UNHCR, *Southern Tunisia: Weekly Update, Issue #4*. August 15, 2011.

[10] UNHCR, *Breakdown of Urban Libyan Refugees (Libyan Registration Database)*, July 21 2011. This figure doe s not include those residing in camps in these gouvernorats.

1.2 Humanitarian response to Libyans displaced in Tunisia

National and international actors have been working to address the humanitarian needs of the population displaced within Tunisia.

Camp-based populations

For the populations based in the camps, there has been a focus on providing multi-sectorial support, including shelter (UNHCR, IFRC, Islamic Relief), food (UNHCR, WFP, Islamic Relief), water and sanitation (ICRC, UNICEF), nutrition (Save the Children, UNICEF) and education (Save the Children, UNICEF, Islamic Relief, Deccra). In terms of protection, UNFPA's activities have included distribution of hygiene kits, youth peer education training, the provision of reproductive health services and care and GBV prevention and response programme including the development of a GBV referral system, the provision of psycho-social support to persons at risk of GBV and to survivors of GBV and the provision of clinical care for GBV survivors. The camp-based child protection activities supported by UNICEF and Save the Children include the identification, registration and provision of interim care for unaccompanied and separated children, ensuring birth registration, provision of psychosocial support to children in the camp and the establishment of child friendly spaces.

Urban displaced

For the Libyans displaced in urban and rural contexts, initial responses have been predominantly led by local and national organisations and associations including, for example, the local Comités de Protection de la Révolution (Committees for the Protection of the Revolution), Association Alkhaireya and Association Noor, many of whom managed to mobilise great amounts of support very quickly and have shown tremendous generosity towards Libyans in Tunisia.

International organisations are now also responding to the needs of the urban displaced in the area of food and non-food item distributions and other protection services. UNHCR, for example, initiated a pilot project supporting Tunisian families who are hosting Libyans by contributing towards their water and electricity bills. The World Food Programme (WFP) has provided assistance to bakeries through the daily distributions of fresh bread. In addition, complementary Ramadan food packages for iftar (the evening meal) have been distributed by a consortium of agencies including the Tunisian Red Cross (TRC), World Food Programme (WFP), UNHCR, the UAE Red Crescent, Al Tawoon, Secours Islamique France (SIF), Secours Populaire Français, WAFA Relief and the Libyan Relief Committee. WFP plans to commence a voucher distribution covering vegetables, fruit, meat and eggs in mid-September replacing the current food distributions.

In terms of the education response, UNICEF and other organisations including ADRA have organised for educational and recreational classes to take place in a number of schools in the gouvernorats over the summer period for both Libyan as well as Tunisian children. A longer term education strategy is currently being developed by the Tunisian Ministry of Education together with UNICEF, Save the Children and UNHCR.

The Mine Action Group (MAG) has been active in the area of Risk Education (RE), holding sessions and distributing flyers to families and individuals returning to Libya to raise awareness about mines and explosive remnants of war.

In terms of reproductive health, UNFPA is working with a national organisation, the Tunisian Association for Reproductive Health (ATSR), to offer comprehensive reproductive health services. In addition, UNFPA is working with 8 social workers and 1 psychologist in Tataouine to sensitize the Libyan as well as Tunisian populations on reproductive health issues and GBV and are considering a similar model in Médenine gouvernorat with another partner, the National Board for Family and Population (ONFP). UNHCR has also set up a network of outreach workers in each of the five governorates they are focusing on. 12 outreach workers are in Médenine (1 in Ben Guardane, 1 in Beni Khedache, 2 in Zarzis, 2 in Djerba and 6 for Médenine Sud, Médenine Nord et Sidi Makhlouf); 4 are in Gabès., 3 in Sfax, 2 in Kebili: and 8 in Tataouine. In addition, UNHCR also supports a Complex de l'Enfance in Remada, run by the Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs (MAF).

A part from UNHCR's support to the Complex de l'Enfance and the work to date of UNFPA, however, there has not been much in terms of child protection activities for those displaced in the urban and rural areas in the southern Tunisian gouvernorats.

2. Introduction to the Rapid Assessment

The Child Protection sub-Working Group for Tunisia in Zarzis recognizes that the prioritisation of, and strategic planning around, interventions should be based on evidence and assessed needs. Given that there is currently no in-depth overview of the protection risks for children affected by the displacement in Southern Tunisia, members of the Child Protection sub-Working Group, notably Save the Children and UNFPA together with UNICEF, decided to undertake this inter-agency Child Protection assessment in the three Gouvernorats Tataouine, Médenine and Gabès.

The rapid assessment builds on, and was informed by, findings shared by the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and UNFPA on focus group discussions they held with groups of Libyan adolescents girls and boys, as well as other rapid assessments carried out including a UNHCR GBV assessment in May, a WFP rapid food security assessment in June, and United Nations Mission reports for Tripoli and Nafusa Mountains end of June, early July 2011.

3. Scope and Methodology

The Child Protection rapid assessment was carried out using the *Child Protection Rapid Assessment Toolkit – Pilot/Field-testing Version 1.0* developed by the Global Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) of the Protection Cluster Working Group (PCWG) in 2011. In line with this tool, child protection in emergencies was defined as "the prevention and response to abuse, neglect, exploitation of and violence against children in emergencies"[11] for this assessment. The main child protection related issues the assessment aimed to collect information on were:

- Separation of children from their families
- Threats to Children's Physical Safety and Security
- Children associated with armed and/or political groups
- Sexual and gender-based violence
- Psychosocial distress

3.1 Timeframe

Overall, the process took place from July 12 – August 29, 2011. A member of the CPWG Rapid Response Team (RRT) led the process supported by UNICEF, UNFPA and Save the Children in-country. In terms of the individual steps involved in the rapid assessment process: From July 12 to July 17, an inter-agency coordination group was formed and the assessment objectives as well as geographic scope were agreed upon. From July 17 – 24, the rapid assessment tools were contextualised and translated, and a pre-test of the tool was carried out. From July 25 – 31, the assessors for the assessment teams were hired and training conducted. The raw data was collected through field visits to the selected sites from August 1 – 5, the data verification and analysis took place from August 7 – 12, and the report writing from August 12 – 29, 2011 (during which time a first draft was drafted, circulated for comments and feedback incorporated into a revised version of the assessment report).

3.2 Objectives

The objectives of the Child Protection rapid assessment were two-fold:

1. To determine the scale of the needs and protection risks for children affected by the displacement caused by the Libyan crisis.
2. To determine potential and actual capacities within the communities to respond to the existing risks and needs.

The aim of the assessment was to equip actors within the humanitarian community as well as authorities working in Tunisia and Libya with a better understanding of the protection risks for children affected by the displacement and to assist them in the identification of appropriate responses to the issues identified.

3.3 Sampling methodology

Purposive sampling, a type of non-probability sampling, was selected as the most appropriate type of sampling for this rapid assessment since reliable information about the population in terms of exact numbers and locations is not available, and since there was insufficient time to visit the number of households or individuals

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[11] Global Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) agreed working definition on CPIE, 2010.

needed for statistical significance to use random sampling. Purposive sampling is a methodology where communities or groups of people are purposefully selected based on a set of defined criteria. Despite its inaccuracies, the benefits of purposive sampling are that it can provide a sense of the scale and priorities that is approximate enough to enable initial rapid prioritization and planning, and site selection can be adjusted during the assessment process if needed. In addition to purposive sampling, snowball sampling was used to identify Libyan families as key informants in the assessment process. Section 3.5.1 describes this in more detail.

3.4 Geographic Scope and Sample Frame

Given that the rapid assessment aimed to focus on areas within Southern Tunisia that have highest number of displaced Libyan nationals, UNHCR's registration data of refugee populations was used to identify the gouvernorats that have the highest concentration of Libyan refugees[12]. As Table 2 below indicates, of the five gouvernorats UNHCR currently focuses on, Tataouine, Médenine and Gabès were found to be the ones with the highest number of Libyan refugees. This corresponds with information provided by earlier rapid assessments which suggest that the majority of Libyans, given the choice, prefer to stay close to the Tunisia-Libya border areas rather than moving far in-land or up north.[13]

	Gouvernorats in Southern Tunisia				
	Tataouine[14]	Médenine[15]	Gabès[16]	Sfax[17]	Kébili[18]
Surface area (km^2)	38,889	9,167	7,175	7 545	22 454
Rate of urbanisation (%)	61,9	77,9	68,9	63	54,0
Literacy rate (%)	86	91,9	90,3	83,7%[19]	88,9
Est. Tunisian population	145,300	453,200	358,900	85,256	131,914
Est. Libyan population[20]	**21,137**	**13,457**	**4,250**	3,014	1,066

Table 2: Estimated Number of Libyan Nationals in Southern Tunisian Gouvernorats, as of July 21, 2011

In order to focus in on specific areas within these three gouvernorats, by developing a sample frame and grid, scenarios needed to be developed. Based on the little that was known to the team during the planning phase of the assessment in terms of defining characteristics of the affected population, the following differences relating to the locations they were seeking refuge in, were identified:

- More Libyan nationals are staying in Tataouine gouvernorat than in the gouvernorats Médenine and Gabès combined.
- Socio-economic differences exist between the three gouvernorats. Médenine and Gabès have higher literacy rates and rates of urbanisation, for example, than Tataouine. See Table 2 above.
- In each of three gouvernorats, Libyans are living in what can basically be described as three different types of environments: camps, urban areas, rural areas.

Based on these characteristics, the three Gouvernorats were first divided into two regions: Tataouine as X1 and Médenine and Gabès together as X2. Then the added scenarios of camp (A), urban areas (B) and rural areas (B) were added to each of the two regions resulting in the following five scenarios:

1. Camps in Tataouine (X1A)[21]
2. Urban areas in Tataouine (X1B)

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[12] UNHCR, 2011, (Draft) *Tunisia : Urban Libyan Refugees (Libyan Registration Database) as of 10th July 2011*.

[13] WFP, *Rapid Food Security Assessment of Libyan Refugees in Tunisia*: June 2011.

[14] Ministère de l'Industrie et de la Technologie, «Gouvernorat de Tataouine en chiffres 2009».

[15] Ministère de Développement et de la Coopération Internationale, «Gouvernorat de Médenine en chiffres 2009».

[16] Ministère de Développement et de la Coopération Internationale, «Gouvernorat de Gabès en chiffres 2009».

[17] Ministère de l'Industrie et de la Technologie, «Gouvernorat de Sfax»: Portail de l'industrie tunisienne.

[18] Ministère de Développement et de la Coopération Internationale, «Gouvernorat de Kébili en chiffres 2009».

[19] «Carte d'identité du gouvernorat de Sfax». Available at: http://www.cgdr.nat.tn/fr/index1.php?id=83

[20] UNHCR, *Breakdown of Urban Libyan Refugees (Libyan Registration Database)*, July 21 2011.

[21] There are only camps where Libyans stay in Tataouine and not in Médenine or Gabès. Choucha camp was excluded from this rapid assessment as it hosts a different population and child protection actors are already working there.

3. Rural areas in Tataouine (X1C)
4. Urban areas in Médenine and Gabès (X2B)
5. Rural areas in Médenine and Gabès (X2C)

Given that the sample frame is a list of all the sites that could be selected to be part of an assessment, the sample frame below, captured in Table 3, includes all of the urban and rural areas as well as the camps for these three Gouvernorats. Gouvernorats in Tunisia are divided into administrative units of délégations, municipalités and secteurs or imadats[22]. Ideally, sites would be selected at the level of secteur or even smaller so that they would have similar population sizes to the camps, but the only source of information available from UNHCR on the number of Libyan refugees was the registration information at the délégation level.

Table 3: Tunisian and Libyan Populations in Tataouine, Médenine and Gabès

Area / Name		Estimated population pre-crisis[23]	Estimated number of Libyan individuals[24][25]	Estimated total population	Estimated percentage of population that are Libyan
Gouvernorat Tataouine	**Camps for Libyans**				
	Dehiba (Islamic Relief)	N / A	810	810	100%
	Qatari (Gov't of Qatar)	N / A	677	677	100%
	Remada (UNHCR)	N / A	908	908	100%
	Délégations				
	Dehiba	3971	1586	5557	28.54%
	Tataouine Sud	33783	7279	41062	17.72%
	Ghomrassen	18335	2053	20388	10.06%
	Tataouine Nord	54362	5789	60151	9.62%
	Bir Lachmer	9270	2006	11276	17.79%
	Remada	9977	1243	11220	11.07%
	Smar	13826	1120	14946	7.49%
Gouvernorat Médenine	**Camps for Libyans**				
	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N / A
	Délégations				
	Médenine Nord	48102	1955	50057	3.90%
	Médenine Sud	48087	2308	50395	4.80%
	Zarzis	73549	2293	75842	3.02%
	Djerba Ajim	24166			
	Djerba Midoun	50459	3232		1.58 - 3.39%
	Djerba Houmt Souk	64919			
	Ben Guerdane	70907	257	71164	0.35%
	Beni Khedache	28586	1102	29688	3.71%
	Sidi Makhlouf	23728	687	24415	2.81%
Gouvernorat Gabès	**Camps for Libyans**				
	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N / A
	Délégations				
	Gabès Medina	47057	183	47240	0.38%
	Gabès Ouest	28389	474	28863	1.64%
	Gabès Sud	61699	393	62092	0.63%
	Ghannouch	10964	348	11312	3.07%
	Hamma	62390	920	63310	1.45%
	Mareth	61340	1322	62662	2.10%
	Matmata	5766	-	-	-
	Nouvelle Matmata	15969	85		0.53%
	Menzel Habib	11477	1		0.008%
	Metouia	25862	451		1.74%

3.4.1 Sample grid

Since the délégations themselves are too large to be used as sites for the rapid assessment, the decision was made to use the next administrative level down, namely the 'secteur'. The units of measurement agreed upon

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[22] UNDP and Gold Maghreb (date unknown), *Decentralised administrative structure in Tunisia*.

[23] Institut National de la Statistique, Data from 2004 Population census

[24] UNHCR, *Breakdown of Urban Libyan Refugees (Libyan Registration Database)*, July 21 2011.

[25] UNHCR, *Camps Population: Emergency Operation in southern Tunisia*. July 13, 2011.

therefore for the assessment were 'camps', on the one hand, and 'secteurs' on the other hand. Each délégation is broken down into secteurs, some of which are described as urban and some of which are rural based on criteria used by local authorities. Even though some 'secteurs' are much larger than others, this was one of the best available options to approach the site selection in a relatively conform way.

The criteria for site selection that was agreed upon was that the sites had to:
- Be either a 'camp' or a 'secteur'
- Lie within the administrative borders of the Tataouine Gouvernorat scenario X1, and within the borders of the Médenine or Gabès Gouvernorats for scenario X2
- Be an area with amongst the highest concentration of Libyans seeking refuge within the délégation
- Be accessible for the assessment teams also in terms of security clearance

Given that the UNHCR registration information is not available at the level of the secteur, however, three délégations were identified for each scenario, based on the percentage of Libyan nationals they were in each and based whether the délégation were predominantly urban or rural. In order to identify the secteurs within each of the délégation, the assessment teams asked representatives from local authorities and associations[26] in each of the délégation to identify the secteurs with the highest estimated number of Libyan nationals staying there. The sample grid below represents the final sites selected per scenario where the assessment teams carried out the data collection.

Table 4: Sites selected as the sample grid for the rapid assessment

Scenario	Site code	Urban / Rural / Camp	Sites selected		Estimated Tunisian population[27] per site[28]	Estimated Libyan population per site[29]
			Délégation	Camp / Secteur		
X1A	X1A1	Camp	Dehiba camp	Dehiba camp	0	0
	X1A2	Camp	Remada camp	Remada camp	0	150 (23 f)
X1B	X1B1	Urban	Tataouine Sud	Cité El Mahrajen in Tataouine El Oulia	3123 (609 f)	30
	X1B2	Urban	Ghomrassen	Ghomrassen I	3349 (827 f)	(30 f)
	X1B3	Urban	Dehiba	Dehiba Est	1986 (396 f)	70
X1C	X1C1	Rural	Smar	Ksar Oun	2106 (389 f)	(60 f)
	X1C2	Rural	Remada	Kambout	903 (163 f)	60
	X1C3	Rural	Bir Lachmer	Graguer	440 (107 f)	30
	X1C4	Rural	Smar	Essmar	3325 (697 f)	120
X2B	X2B1	Urban	Médenine Nord	2 Mai	8093 (1625 f)	84 (12 f)
	X2B2	Urban	Médenine Sud	Médenine Sud	12732 (2558 f)	(145 f)
	X2B3	Urban	Ghannouch	Ghannouch Nord	3616 (598 f)	(80 f)
X2C	X2C1	Rural	Sidi Maklouf	Erragouba	2905 (560 f)	(50 f)
	X2C2	Rural	Ben Khedache	Ksar Jdid	3303 (638 f)	(28 f)
	X2C3	Rural	Mareth	Dkhilet Toujen	4758 (1019 f)	(35 f)
	X2C4	Rural	Médenine Sud	Hessi Amor	3219 (589 f)	(71 f)

In total, two camps, eight rural sites and six urban sites were visited over the five day period. As is illustrated in Figure 2, this corresponds with 37% of the areas being urban, 13% camps and 50% rural areas. (Note that no data was collected in one of the sites visited, Dehiba camp, since families were no longer there when the assessment team visited. Therefore data is only available for 15 sites.) A brief description of the 16 sites is captured in Annex I, including notes the assessment team made on the places of origin
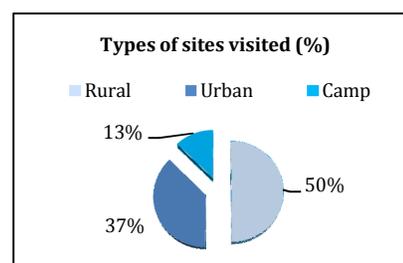
Types of sites visited (%)

Rural ■ Urban ■ Camp

13%
37%
50%

Figure 2: Sites visited by assessors, by type

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[26] For a list of those consulted in each site, see Annex I.

[27] Institut National de la Statistique, Tunisie (RGPH 2004)

[28] The number of individuals is included in the column below with the number of families in parentheses.

[29] This is based on verbal estimates from key informants in each of the sites. Some provided information on number of individuals or families (f).

of the Libyan families they spoke to and the organisations they found present in the various sites.

3.5 Assessment tools

The Child Protection rapid assessment used the following assessment tools for the data collection, which are a part of the *CPWG Child Protection Rapid Assessment Toolkit*:

- Desk Review Tool[30]
- Key Informant Interview Tool
- Direct Observation Tool (one for camp settings and one for urban / rural settings)
- Site Report[31]

The standard versions of the assessment tools, which are available in English, French and Arabic, were contextualised. A pre-test of the adapted Key Informant Interview tool was carried out by two assessors on July 24, 2011 in Tataouine with two social workers, followed by a male and a female member of two different Libyan families. Based on the feedback from the interviews, a few changes to the wording of the questions were made.

With regards to language, in an effort to minimise the amount of translation required, the Key Informant interviews and the Direct Observation were done in Arabic by the assessors and their answers noted in Arabic. For the Site Report, however, which summarises the individual Key Informant interviews and the Direct Observation for each site, French was used to facilitate rapid data entry and information sharing.

3.5.1. Key Informant Interviews

In total, the assessment team conducted key informant interviews with 104 key informants in the 16 sites visited[32]. Per site, a minimum of three key informants interviews were conducted. The highest number of interviews conducted in one site was nine, which occurred in three sites.

In the selection of the key informants, primary consideration was given to persons that were believed to have had significant knowledge of the situation of the population. Amongst these, the assessment team sought to identify a minimum of two persons per site who either worked directly with, or took care of, children in some capacity on a day to day basis. And lastly, at least one person per site was sought as a key informant who was thought to have some level of responsibility or authority in the area.

The majority of the key informant interviews were therefore conducted with Libyan families. In total, 101 interviews were carried out with Libyan family members, with one interview being conducted per family. In addition to these 101 interviews with Libyan families in the sites, one interview was carried out with a health professional, one interview was conducted with a teacher, and one with a member of the local Committee for the Protection of the Revolution (Comité à la Protection de la Revolution). In total 104 key informant interviews were carried out.

In terms of the methodology used to identify Libyan families, local representatives of the Ministry of Social Affairs (MAS), the Delegates responsible for Child Protection under the Ministry of Women and Children's Affaires (Délègues à la Protection de l'Enfance, MAF) and representatives of Tunisian Associations supporting Libyan families assisted in identifying key informants in each location. Given that it is not easy to identify refugees in contexts of urban or rural displacement, using snowball sampling presented itself as the most useful approach. Once a Libyan family was identified, they introduced the assessors to other Libyan families to carry out further key informant interviews per site.

With regards to the gender balance of the key informant interviews carried out, a minimum of two interviews were conducted per site with women. The lowest ration of female to male interviews conducted in a site was 2:8 (25%) in 2 Mai, and the highest ratio was 6:8 (75%) in Médenine Sud. Overall, the average was 0.49 meaning that 49% of those interviewed as key informants were female as is illustrated in Figure 3 below.

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[30] This supports the desk review process which begins prior to the assessment planning itself and informs not only the adaptation of the tools to the context, but also the interpretation of the data.

[31] A Site report is compiled for each site visited, based on the Key Informant interviews and the Direct Observation conducted and forms the unit of analysis for the information.
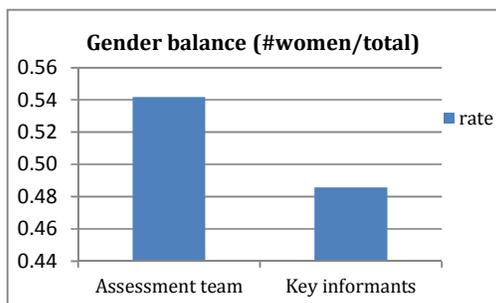
[32] Note that for one of the sites, Dehiba camp, no interviews were conducted as families were no longer there.

3.6 Assessment team

A team of 9 assessors were engaged in the assessment. The assessors were selected, based on their availability and profile, from a list of participants who had attended a UNICEF and Save the Children training on Child Protection in Emergencies earlier in the year.

Table 5: Profile of Assessment Team

Position	No. of assessors
Independent Social workers	4
Assistant Social workers with MAS	2
Animatrice d'Enfants	1
Psychologist with MAF	1
Inspéctrice with MAF	1

The assessors were divided into three teams that each covered one site per day. In terms of gender balance, there was a minimum of one female member per team with two teams composed of two females and one male member. This was of particular importance since many of the female key informants only felt comfortable speaking with a female assessor.

Each team had one Supervisor appointed who served as the focal point for the team and who ensured that the Site Reports were compiled at the end of each site visit.

Figure 3: Gender balance of assessment team and key informants interviewed

3.7 Limitations

A number of limitations accompanied this rapid assessment, including the timing of the field visits during the first week of Ramadan (August 1-5, 2011). Given the reduced working hours agreed amongst UN and other humanitarian agencies during the Ramadan period, less key informant interviews were conducted per site than would perhaps have been in other times. This, however, was taken into account prior to the field visits and arrangements were made to accommodate this as far as possible. A limit was set to one site per day per team, for example, and site visits were to be concluded by latest 14.30 every day.

Another limitation relates to the limited number of days available overall for the field visits as defined by the scope of the assessment in the assessment plan, meaning that only a small number of sites could be selected. Given the rapidly changing context, priority was given for this assessment to take place quickly and have the findings available quickly as opposed to increased coverage. In light of this, a conscious decision was made not to prioritise areas with high living costs where families are assumed to be well-off relative to other areas.

Two further limitations relate to the key informants interviewed for the assessment. In terms of the key informants identified, although the assessment teams also tried to identify and meet a minimum of one person per site who was thought to have relative authority or responsibility over the area, this did not occur for two main reasons: 1, in most sites those who have responsibility or authority over the area are not the most knowledgeable about the Libyan population; 2, even if they were identified, in some sites it was not possible to meet those in positions of authority as the site visits were unannounced and they were not available. In addition, given that snowball sampling was used to identify families, this creates a source of bias as the families are likely to introduce the assessment teams to families that are of the same or similar socio-economic background or come from a similar area. It is hoped, however, that this source of bias is naturally corrected as snowball sampling was only used within the sites and not across them.

Limited availability of information regarding the situation of children in Libya restricted the ability of the team for thorough contextual analysis. Although a few human rights organisations have published a number of reports and United Nations agencies have compiled statistics on social and economic indicators, there is not much secondary data available which otherwise would have enriched the adaptation of the tools and the ensuing analysis.

A last limitation was the fact that neither the assessment team members nor the drivers accompanying the teams were familiar with all of the locations visited. This meant that time was spent in many locations identifying how best to get to the identified site.

4. Key Rapid Assessment Findings

The main findings of the rapid child protection assessment are described in this section. The first part below, 4.1, relates to the overall situation of the Libyans displaced, whereas 4.2 covers the child protection specific findings of the assessment.

4.1 General assessment Findings

4.1.1. General Profile of the families interviewed

The majority of the Libyan families met in the three gouvernorats were from the Nafusa mountains area. The region in western Libya has been the scene of intense fighting between the Government of Libya forces and the pro-revolutionary groups since mid-March 2011. According to an OCHA report, the majority of the population was reliant on government salaries prior to the conflict, which have not been received since February. The majority of the population is of Berber (Amazigh) origin which is the largest ethnic minority (5 percent) in Libya.[33]

Without exception all of the Libyan families who participated in the assessment had entered into Tunisia through the Dehiba border crossing. The assessors met one family in Beni Khedesh who said that they had initially wanted to enter into Tunisia through the Ras Ajdir border, but were scared to do for fear of the pro-Gaddafi forces. The family preferred instead to take a route into Tunisia which was much longer for them via Dehiba-Wazin border point which was under the control of pro-revolutionary groups.

The majority of the families the assessment teams found consisted of women with multiple children. In some cases, the fathers / husbands were there with the family, but in many cases they were in Libya fighting (in most cases with the pro-revolutionary groups according to the families), and would either have a brother or male relative who was in Tunisia regularly check-up on the family or would return regularly to visit them, travelling back and forth to Libya.

The majority of families spoken to had moved multiple times within Tunisia, some as often as five times. This was due to the fact that they were seeking adequate shelter and following available options. Many spent some days or weeks in one of the camps before identifying a flat for their families most often with the help of local associations that were either providing flat for free or at a reduced rental rate. Only a small number of the interviewed families were renting the flats they resided in. Of those that were paying for their accommodation, the rents differed between 80 Tunisian Dinar per month to 170 Tunisian Dinar per month.

Considerable differences were noted by the assessment teams during the household visits in terms of basic non-food items and equipment the households were using. Whilst some families were lacking refrigeration, cooking utensils, sleeping mats and basic toys for the children, other families were well equipped with goods they were either able to bring with them or to get locally including televisions, cookers etc.

In terms of food the families were receiving through the Ramadan distributions, these included[34]: 2.5 kg couscous, 5 kg macaroni, 2 kg lentils, 2 kg rice, 1 kg shorba, 1 kg sugar, 1 kg tomatoes, 3 cheese, 4 cans of (140 gr.) tuna, 1 kg harissa. The assessment teams were told this was a set for one family per week, regardless of household size. In almost all of the sites a minimum of one family said that they required food which is more appropriate for children. These families also asked if it would be possible to receive nappies (couche bébé) for the infants. Although there are some organizations distributing these, it was being done haphazardly with low coverage.

4.1.2. Population movements back and forth to Libya

Overall, the numbers of Libyan families in all of the sites without exception was significantly lower than what the assessment team expected based on UNHCR's registration data from July 2011. In some cases, such as Dehiba camp, for example, not one single Libyan family remained (see Chart 3 below). This is said to be the case primarily for two reasons: 1, many families returned to their homes in Libya for the Ramadan period; 2, the beginning of the assessment coincided with a series of military gains by the pro-revolutionary groups in

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[33] OCHA, United Nations Security and Humanitarian Access Mission: Wazin, Nalut, Jadu, Zintan. 30 June and 1 July 2011.

[34] This list of items was put together at a distribution site of the Ramadan packages in Médenine.

terms of areas under their control in western Libya. Families keen to return did so as soon as they had indications that their towns were 'liberated'.

Figure 4: Registered camp populations in Tataouine, as of July13 and August 12, 2011
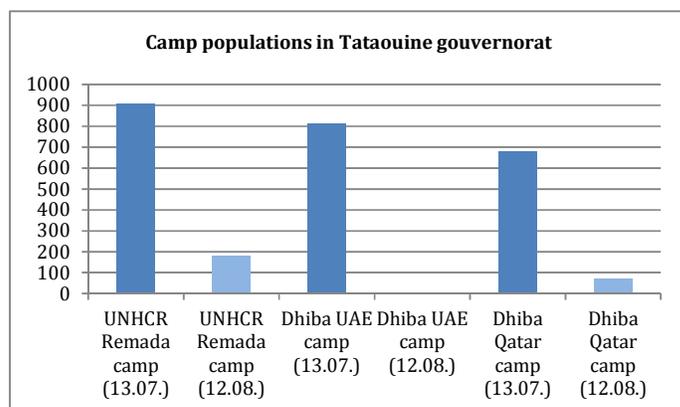
OCHA, in its Libya Situation Report from 11 August 2011 states that, "significant return has been reported to parts of the Nafusa Mountains since the start of Ramadan due to improved security, electricity, functioning hospitals, the shops re-opening and because families want to be home for Ramadan. Between 28 July and 1 August, 400 Libyan families reportedly returned per day to the region, and since 1 August around 40 families have reportedly left Tunisia per day."[35] IOM and UNHCR border monitors highlighted a 60% increase in the number of individuals exiting Tunisia during the week of August 15 as compared to the week before.[36]

	Entries to Tunisia	Return to Libya
01-Aug	444	712
02-Aug	610	588
03-Aug	609	582
04-Aug	667	592
05-Aug	697	678
06-Aug	643	696
07-Aug	736	668
08-Aug	688	762
09-Aug	835	1,013
10-Aug	669	1,145
11-Aug	780	1,133
12-Aug	779	1,142
13-Aug	802	1,100
14-Aug	796	1,564
15-Aug	1,031	1,080
16-Aug	1,294	1,406
17-Aug	1,447	1,180
18-Aug	1,864	1,341
19-Aug	1,815	1,242
20-Aug	1,663	1,590
21-Aug	1,400	1,450
22-Aug	315	2,420
23-Aug	1,200	1,470
24-Aug	1,440	1,707

Table 6: Dehiba border crossings in August 2011

The drop in the number of Libyan families in the gouvernorats is reflected in the UNHCR ration card distributions as part of the food distributions. Whereas the initial number of families registered was 4,034 families in Tataouine, 5,114 in Médenine, 1,234 in Gabès, 1258 in Sfax and 181 in Kébili, ration cards to access the distributions were only picked up by the following families: 2,349 in Tataouine, 2,917 in Médenine, 741 in Gabès, 550 in Sfax and 142 in Kébili. It is assumed that the majority of families that did not pick up their ration cards did not do so as they had returned to Libya.

However, there have also been reports that some families are returning back to Tunisia after they had been home to Libya. According to OCHA in its Situation Report from August 11 which covers the time period of August 4-11, between five and ten families, of those who had returned to the Nafusa Mountains, were going back to Tunisia per day. The reason behind the movement to Tunisia is related to a lack of resources available in the region, and difficulties faced by families from "certain tribal and political origins".[37] UNHCR also reports that in Remada camp, for example, 12 families (62 individuals) that had originally left back for Libya had returned to the camp during the week of August 8-14, 2011.[38]

Reviewing the statistics collected by IOM and UNHCR border monitors in Dehiba as shown in Table 7, there continue to be fluctuations in entries and exits, without a clear trend developing. During the first week of August, for example, the number of Libyans entering and leaving Tunisia appeared to be relatively equal whereas during the second week of August, the numbers of those returning to Libya were higher which appears to have been overturned with more Libyans entering back into Tunisia this past week.

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[35] OCHA, *Situation Update #53*. August 2011.

[36] UNHCR, *Southern Tunisia: Weekly Update, Issue #4*. August 15, 2011.

[37] OCHA, *Situation Update #53*. August 2011.

[38] UNHCR, *Southern Tunisia: Weekly Update, Issue #5*. August 25, 2011.

4.2 Findings specific to Child Protection

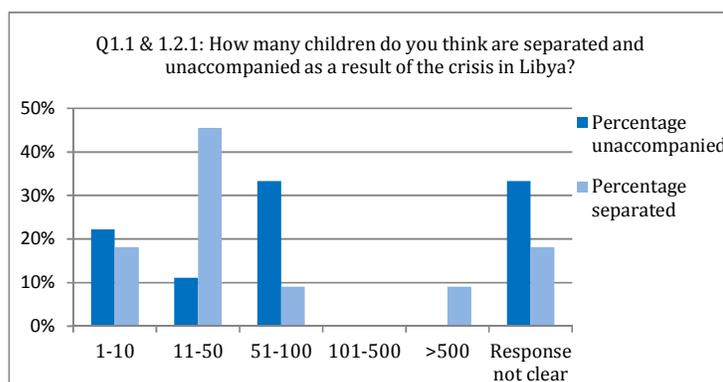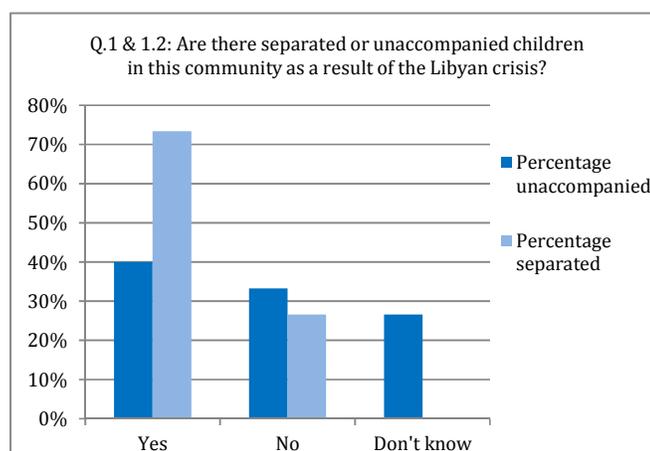### 4.2.1 Separated and unaccompanied children

In line with the *Inter-agency Guiding Principles on Separated and Unaccompanied Children*[39], the following definitions were used for this assessment:

- *child*: is any person under the age of 18;
- *separated child*: is a child who is separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives; and
- *unaccompanied child*: is a child who has been separated from both parents and other relatives and is not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so.

When pre-testing the tool, it was found that the words 'separated' and 'unaccompanied', even when explained by the assessors, were not terms that were easily understood by Libyan families. Instead of using these words then, it was decided that assessors should ask specifically about children who were not living with their usual caregivers but with other members of their extended family due to the crisis (separated children); or children who were living neither with their usual caregivers nor with their extended family members as a result of the crisis (unaccompanied children).

Although the risks of separation of children from their families increase with large scale population movements, especially if these are due to conflict, the issue of separation is not one which appeared to be of great concern for the key informants interviewed. During the course of the site visits, the assessment team did not come across any cases of unaccompanied children, although they were told of cases, and did identify a small number of separated children living with extended family members.

When asked whether there are separated children in the community as a result of the crisis in Libya, the majority of respondents (73%) suggested there are children living with extended family members and not their usual caregivers due to the crisis in Libya, as opposed to 27% who suggested that there are no separated children in the community. With regards to unaccompanied children, less than half of the key informants, 40%, said that there are children in the community living with adults who were neither their usual caregivers nor their extended family members, whilst 33% said there are no such children in the community.

Q.1 & 1.2: Are there separated or unaccompanied children in this community as a result of the Libyan crisis?

Q1.1 & 1.2.1: How many children do you think are separated and unaccompanied as a result of the crisis in Libya?

In terms of the estimates the key informants gave for the numbers of separated children in the community, the majority (45%) of the respondents said there are between 11-50 children, followed by 1-10 children (18%) and an equal number (9%) said between 51-100 and over 500 children as is illustrated in the Figure for Question 1.1 and 1.2.1.

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[39] The *Inter-agency Guiding Principles on Unaccompanied and Separated Children* were developed and endorsed by UINCEF, UNHCR, ICRC, International Rescue Committee, World Vision International and Save the Children in 2004.

With regards to the causes for separation, the main causes mentioned by key informants are captured in Table 5 below.

Table 7: Causes of separation of children from their families

Causes	Examples given by key informants
Death of one or both parents during the fighting or bombing in Libya	• In cases where only the father died, the children remained with the mother and the extended family. In cases where the mother died, however, children were taken care of by the extended family as the fathers in most cases were fighting in Libya. • In two different sites, assessors were told of children who had been orphaned in Misrata and another location in Libya and who had been brought to Tunisia by pro-revolutionary groups, specifically to a hospital Kébili and Douze and the Centre d'Enfant in Djerba. • According to one key informant, the Libyan Red Cresent had a list of those children orphaned. (Efforts to confirm this by contacting authorities, the relevant Délègue à la Protection de l'Enfance and hospitals were fruitless.) • Assessors were told of a number of children who had lost their parents in an attack in Darnah whom the pro-revolutionaries took under their care (more information was not available). • In Beni Khedesh, assessors were told of a 2 month old enfant whose parents had died and who was being cared for by a different Libyan family.
Return of the mother or both parents to Libya leaving the children behind with either extended family or other acquaintances in Tunisia	• Assessors were told of a mother with two daughters who had to return to Libya as one of the daughters was pregnant and had to be with her husband. The mother returned with her pregnant daughter and left her younger 8 year old daughter in Tunisia with family friends.
Parents sent their children to stay in Tunisia with friends or neighbours	• The assessment team heard of a girl from Wazzin who had fled Libya with her neighbors with whom she was still living in Dehiba whilst her parents are still in Libya.
Parents lost their children when fleeing the bombardments	• In Ksar Jdid, the assessors were told of a family with over seven children who realised only after they had fled the bombing that one child had been left behind in Zintan.
Disappearance of children, whom key informants suggested were kidnapped to forcably join the pro-Gaddafi militia	• According to one key informant from Tripoli, he witnessed the abduction of a 17 year old boy who was dragged into a taxi on the street. The man assumes the boy was taken by the militia. • (See section 5.2.4)
Children voluntarily joined the pro-revolutionary armed groups	• (See section 5.2.4)

In terms of the gender and age distribution of the separated children in the community, the majority of respondents said that there was no noticable difference in the sex or the age of the children. 73% of key informants said that there was no difference in gender whilst 27% said that more boys than girls were separated. No respondents said that more girls were separated then boys. On the issue of age, most key informants (45%) said that did not note a difference in the age of children separated, 27% suggested they were over 14 years of age and 18% suggested they were between 5-14 years old.

With regards to the care for separated children, as the cases described above in Table 3 suggest, the majority of separated children are being taken care of by extended family members according to the key informants. This is behaviour that is considered common in Libya where "childcare is [...] considered a responsibility to be taken on by the extended family"[40]. This care for children without parental care by extended family or other community members is rooted in Islam: "[c]hildren deprived of parental care should be sponsored and

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[40] Freedom House, *Libya*. Available at: http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=177

provided for by people acting as if they were their parents. Hence, Shariah encourages Muslims to take up sponsorship to provide care for children in need."[41]

When the key informants were asked if there were cases where members of the community had removed children from the site to provide them with assistance, jobs or better living conditions, the response 100% of the time was 'no'. For the question of

Q2: What are the interim care categories for separated and unaccompanied children?

whether there were reports of persons unknown to the community who had offered to remove children from the site, the majority of the responses (67%) were also 'no', but 20% of the respondents said 'yes'. For the 20% that said yes, examples were given of persons who had offered to take children away from their families in Libya and not in Tunisia. Further information on these cases was not available.
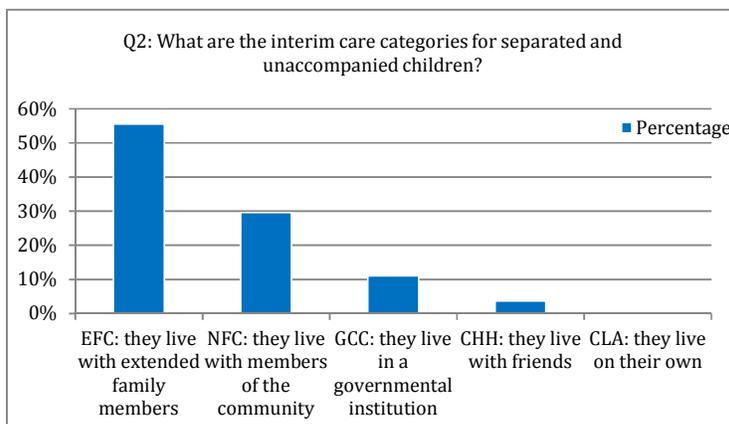
4.2.1.2. Adoptions

Adoption, as a way to create new filiation bonds, is illegal in Libya as it is in many Islamic countries. A system of fostering, known as Kafalah, is used instead which enables families to support children without parental or extended family care, whilst preserving their surname and inheritance rights. Kafalah is the term used for the fostering of children. It is defined as "the commitment to voluntarily take care of the maintenance, of the education and of the protection of a minor, in the same way as a father would do it for his son"[42]. Unlike Libya, Tunisia has legislation on adoption or on the 'conversion' of Kafalah.

Q2.2: Are there adults who wish to adopt a child since the beginning of the crisis in Libya?
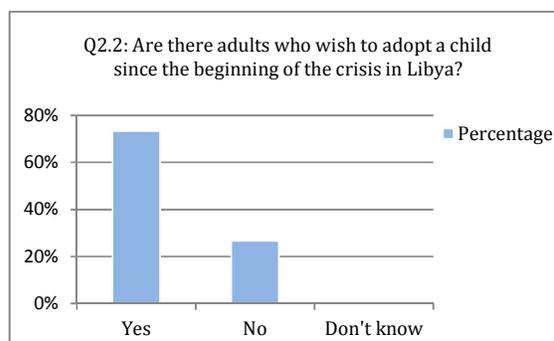
Even though it is illegal in Libya, 73% of the key informants asked suggested that they had heard of adults wishing to adopt a child since the beginning of the crisis in Libya. These were cases of Tunisian and Libyan adults wishing to adopt a Libyan child in Tunisia. The Délègues à la Protection de l'Enfance confirmed that they have heard of, or even received, a number of requests for adoptions of Libyan children orphaned by the crisis by hopeful Tunisian parents. The UNICEF office in Tunis also received two requests by Tunisian adults to adopt a Libyan child.

The key informants who had heard of parents wishing to adopt a child were in the sites Cité El Mahrajen, Kambout, Essmar, Ghomrassen, Ghannouch, Médenine Sud and 2 Mai. No further information was available, however, on whether any adoption requests had been successful.

4.2.1.3 Disappearances and children getting lost

According to the key informants interviewed, 87% said that they have heard of children who had disappeared or who had gotten lost since the beginning of the crisis in Libya. One key informant in Remada camp told the assessors of the case of a lady who had lost her daughter on the border between Dehiba and Wazzin. It was unclear whether the child was taken by someone or got lost. Another respondent in Dehiba Est said that disappearances were especially occurring in small villages between or near the Wazzin – Dehiba border.

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[41] UNICEF and Al-Azhar University (2005), *Children in Islam: Their Care, Development and Protection: A Summary*.

[42] International Social Service (ISS), *Fact Sheet No. 51: Kafalah*. December 2007. International Reference Centre for the Rights of Children Deprived of their Family.

Key informants in Cité El Mahrajen in Tataouine Sud said that although the disappearances were not frequent, they only started with the beginning of the conflict in Libya. In Médenine Sud, the key informant said that they suspect Gaddafi's militias to be behind the disappearances, abducting children to use them in their armed groups. This was echoed by the response given by two families in Ksar Jdid who said that the majority of those who have disappeared have been boys whom they suspect are now with

Gaddafi's militia. The only two sites where key informants said that they had not heard of any disappearances or children getting lost were in Erragouba and Hessi Amor.
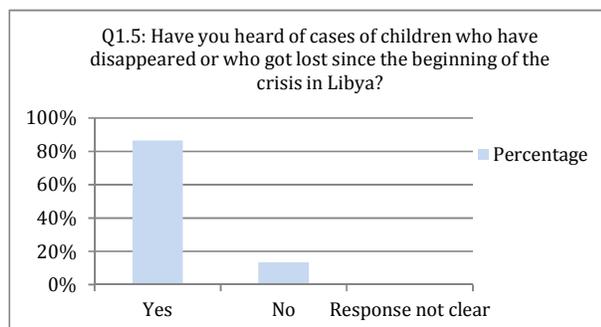
4.2.2 Threats to Children's Physical Safety and Security

Key informants were asked to describe the main threats to children's physical safety and security in the sites they were currently residing in. The main risks identified for children that could lead to injury or death according to the key informants included (in order of greatest to least risk) diseases (29%), small animals or insects including scorpions (29%), dangerous places such as water wells (13%), dangerous objects such as
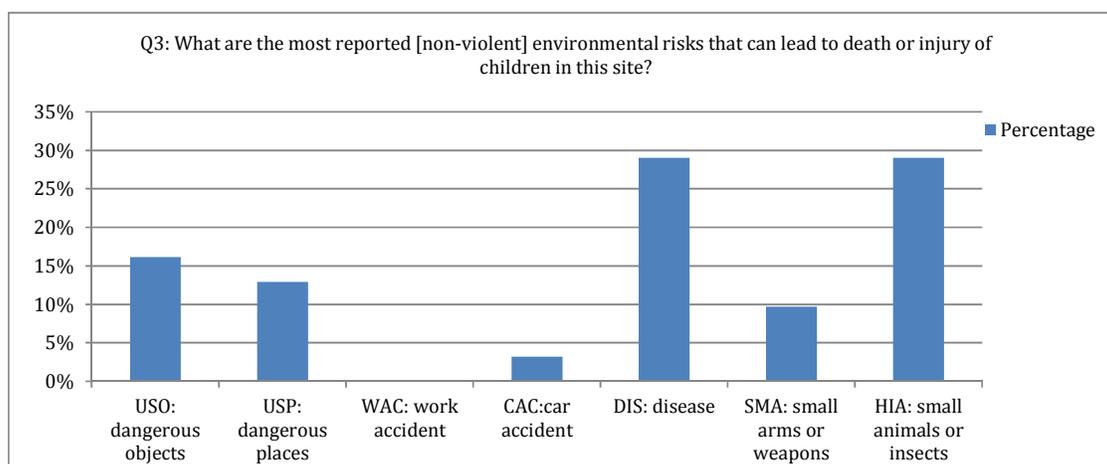
electrical cables (13%), small arms and weapons (10%) and car accidents (3%).

It is interesting to note that small arms and weapons were mentioned as the fifth biggest risk in the sites visited. Even though the assessment teams did not come across any small arms during the site visits, anecdotal evidence points to their existence. During an SGBV assessment in Médenine in May 2011, for example, the assessment team encountered a young boy of 10 years walking down the street carrying a knife. The boy had left Libya with his mother and his siblings and said that he had to protect his family.[43]

According to information collected through interviews with a number of opposition force members by a UN Mission to Nafusa mountains,"[…] in Nalut each household was registered and provided with a weapon"[44]. The possibility therefore exists of course that families took the weapons with them.

Key informants were also asked to identify the places in the site that presented the greatest environmental risks to children. According to the key informants, these places where: on the way to the market (35%), at home (22%), at the marketplace (19%), on the way to school (16%), at school (5%) and nowhere (3%).

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[43] UNFPA, *SGBV Assessment in Médenine: May 11, 2011*.

[44] OCHA, *United Nations Security and Humanitarian Access Mission: Wazin, Nalut, Jadu, Zintan*. 30 June and 1 July 2011.

Q3.1 Which are the places where environmental risks are reported to be high for children?
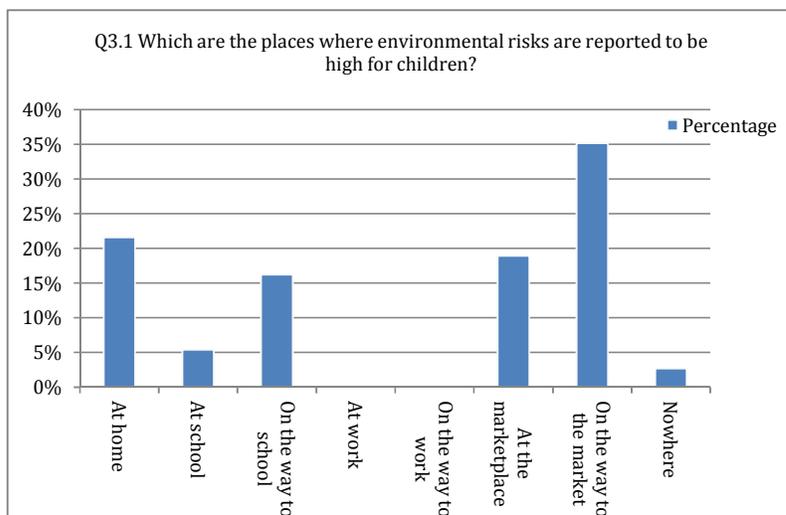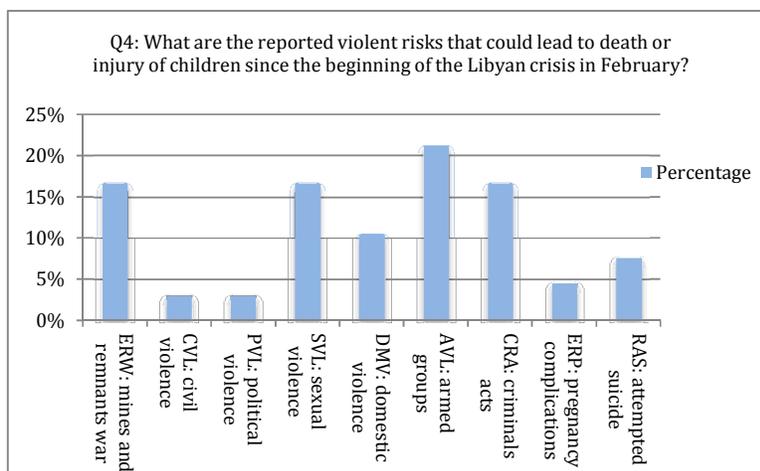
In addition to considering the types of non-violent, or environmental risks, children face, key informants were also asked to identify the types of violent risks that children face since the beginning of the crisis in Libya. Key informants were not asked about violent risks that exist in and around the site, but rather since the beginning of the crisis, meaning that their responses reflect risks in Libya as well as in Tunisia.

As the chart illustrates, the greatest risk was said to be posed by armed groups (21%), followed by mines and explosive remnants of war (17%), sexual violence (17%), and criminal acts (17%). Domestic violence was mentioned as the fourth biggest risk for children with 11%, followed by attempted suicide (8%), pregnancy complications (5%) and political and civil violence with 3%.

In accordance with the responses by the key informants, experts estimate the threat of explosive remnants of war (ERW) present to local populations in conflict-areas in Libya, to be high[45]. According to OCHA, areas that have been identified as priority for ERW clearance are in and around the towns of Ajdabiya, Misrata and Tobruk. In Ajdabiya, assessments are on-going in schools in preparation for the planned reopening in September, a number of which have been contaminated with ERW.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) has also confirmed the use of five types of landmines in six separate locations in Libya, including the use of antipersonnel and anti-vehicle landmines near Ajdabiya. In at least one location in Nafusa mountains HRW reports that Libyan government forces placed over 150 antipersonnel landmines[46], which were reportedly discovered on or around 1 June by Opposition forces.[47]

Q4: What are the reported violent risks that could lead to death or injury of children since the beginning of the Libyan crisis in February?

The presence of explosive remnants of war in the Nafusa Mountains remains a major concern, especially given that many families are returning to their homes. Although spot clearances are taking place, many areas have not been accessible to the Joint Mine Action Coordination Team (JMACT) partners. According to JMACT, accidents relating to ERW continue to be reported. There are reports of incidents in the town of Nalut in the Nafusa Mountains, "where a man stepped on an anti-personnel mine and lost his foot and a tragic accident where a child threw a UXO and the resultant explosion killed two of his siblings".[48]

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[45] OCHA, *Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Crisis: Situation Report No. 53*, August 11, 2011.

[46] HRW, *Libya: Government using Landmines in Nafusa Mountains*. June 21, 2011.

[47] OCHA, *United Nations Security and Humanitarian Access Mission: Wazin, Nalut, Jadu, Zintan*. 30 June and 1 July 2011.

[48] JMACT, *Weekly Report #13*, August 15, 2011.

4.2.3. Sexual and Gender-based Violence

In accordance with their cultural and social norms, Libyan women and men exercise a high level of 'discretion' when discussing issues relating to sexuality, particularly issues of sexual and gender-based violence. This did not stop key informants, however, from talking about their experiences and fears with the assessment teams. It is noticeable, however, that none of the key informants ever spoke of their own experiences; it was rather always about someone else or through something they had heard or seen.

When asked whether there had been an increase in the number of gender-based violence cases since the beginning of the crisis in Libya, all of the key informants responded with 'yes'. For sexual violence, the response was similar except for one male respondent in Essmar who said that sexual violence never occurs. With regards to the gender distribution amongst survivors of sexual violence, 73% said that girls are more often targeted than boys, and 27%

Q6: Are there reports of an increase in the number of sexual vand gender-based iolence cases since the beginning of the crisis?

said that it did not make a difference. For gender-based violence, 60% said that girls were more often targeted, 7% said boys were more often targeted and 33% said that it made no difference.
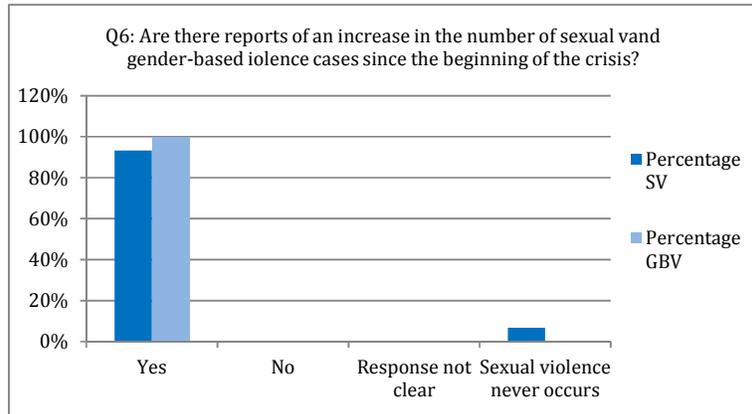
Key informants suggested that sexual violence most often occurred during attacks from armed groups (38%), at home (17%), during demonstrations (14%), whilst playing in open areas in the camp or village area (10%), in public places such as the showers in the camps (7%) and during distributions (7%).

For gender-based violence, although the replies were similar, there was a slight variation in the responses: during attacks from armed groups (38%), at home (21%), during demonstrations (13%), in public places such as the showers in the camps (13%), whilst playing in open areas in the camp or village area (5%), during population movements (5%), at school (3%) and during distributions (3%). Note that although cases of sexual violence were not said to be occurring in schools, cases of gender-based violence were.

Q6.1 and 11.1: In what situations does sexual (SV) and gender-based violence (GBV) most commonly occur?
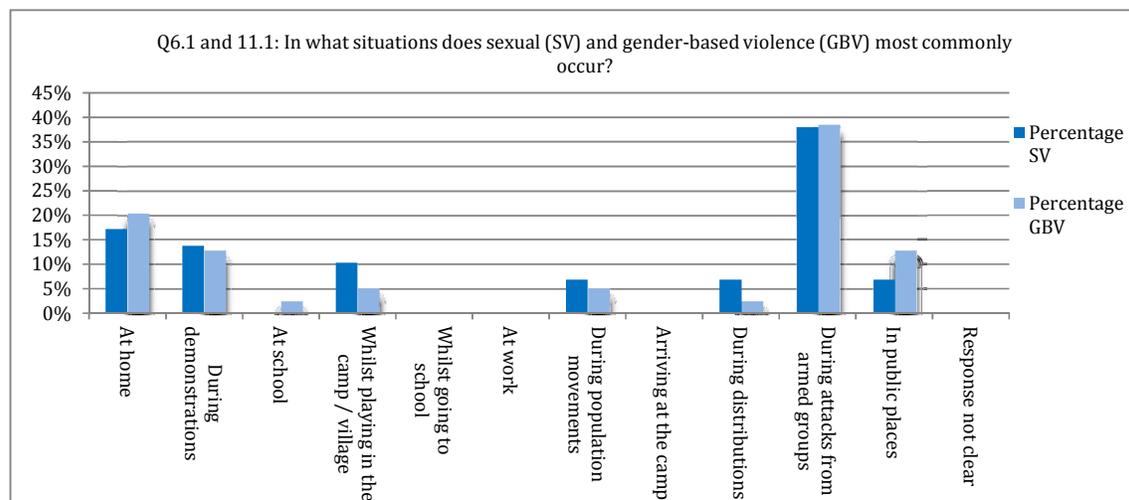
Many of the women described the fear of sexual violence as being one of the main reasons for them to flee from Libya into Tunisia, even if their husbands were not to join the family. One women in Tataouine who had fled Libya together with her four children aged 2, 4, 6 and 9 whilst her husband was in Misrata, said that she was so frightened by the risk of sexual violence that she told her brother, who was living in Tripoli, to send his

daughters to come stay with her in Tunisia as soon as she had arrived. Her brother's daughters, aged 17 and 21 years, came to stay with her after a 27 hour journey by car via the Dehiba border. The women said she felt she had to get her nieces out at any cost.

The women spoke predominantly of the fear of sexual violence at the hands of Gaddafi's militia. Many talked of sexual violence being a part of the attacks the militia carried out on the villages. One woman said that women were used by Gaddafi's militia as sexual objects for the troops. Two separate key informants in different sites suggested that women of pro-revolutionaries had been kidnapped by pro-Gaddafi forces, taken with them to areas under their control and stripped naked in front of the areas when the pro-revolutionary groups approached. One key informant interviewed was an elderly man who said he witnessed the rape of his wife and children in his village, after which he felt he had no option but to join the pro-revolutionary groups to seek revenge. Another key informant in Hessi Amor in Médenine said she had come across a woman who had tried to commit suicide after being raped in Libya. The lady was four months pregnant when she attempted suicide in Tunisia. According to the key informant, she was taken to hospital but the key informant was unable to give us any further information of which hospital and where the lady was now.

The unquestionably strong fear of sexual violence many of the women exhibited is potentially coupled with the rules that govern this type of violence in Libya. According to HRW, Libya has a set of laws referred to as *zina* laws which criminalize adultery or fornication. "These laws, codified in the penal code, discourage rape victims from seeking justice by presenting the threat of prosecution of the victims themselves. Women and girls who attempt to press charges for rape risk being imprisoned for adultery or fornication if they are unable to meet the high threshold of evidence required in rape cases. Judges in Libya also have the authority to propose marriage between the rapist and the victim as a "social remedy" to the crime, further impeding the ability of rape victims to seek justice."[49]

The Libyan penal code classifies sexual crimes as crimes against a women's 'honour' and thus the honour of her family. In light of this, the HRW report suggests that a woman is likely to be kicked out of the house if she is raped given her damaged 'honour' and the shame she brings to the family.[50] Consequently, children born out of wedlock are children who suffer high levels of discrimination in Libya.[51]

In terms of violence within the household, this assessment was not designed to collect further information on domestic violence although sexual and gender-based violence in the home was highlighted as the second highest place of occurrence overall for both. In Libya, little information is available on the extent of the domestic violence, as "it often goes unreported, largely because the issue is still considered taboo and shameful. Furthermore, in some parts of Libyan society, hitting one's wife is not considered unacceptable. Cases of incest or rape occurring in the home are also not generally reported or prosecuted, as this too is considered a private matter and also carries much social stigma.[52]

Although the assessment teams did not received any further information on cases sexual violence during demonstrations, or in other situations such as whilst playing in open areas in the camp/village or during distributions, two key informants in Remada camp said that they had discovered adolescents, male and female, on a number of occasions in the public toilets and showers in camps doing 'unacceptable things'. The key informants requested support from external organizations to raise these issues as they said they had tried telling the parents of these children but they did not listen. They said that they find it hard to talk about these things and people are not likely to listen to them.

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[49] HRW, *Libya: A Threat to Society?* February 27, 2006. Available at: http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2006/02/27/libya-threat-society-0?

[50] HRW, *Libya: A Threat to Society?* February 27, 2006. Available at: http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2006/02/27/libya-threat-society-0?

[51] Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya*, 4 July 2003. CRC/C/15/Add.209

[52] Freedom House, *Libya*. Available at: http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=177

In terms of identifying the support structures for children that exist within families and communities, the figure below illustrates the different people girl and boy children would prefer to turn to for help should they suffer from sexual or gender-based violence. Although the replies are very similar, one difference is that appears that girls tend not to turn to those outside of the family as much as boys do, such as to friends, teachers, local leaders, health or social work professionals, and likewise boys turn less to those within the family than girls do, with the exception of the father.


Q8.1 & 9.1: Whom would girls and boys normally turn to for help?
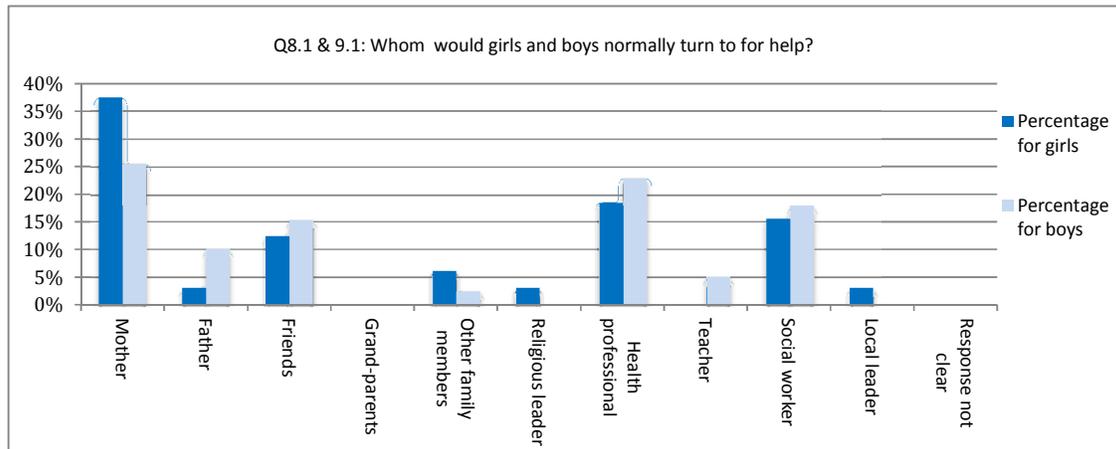
4.2.4. Children associated with armed groups

According to 93% of key informants, there are children who are associated with armed groups (whilst 7% said there were no children associated with armed groups) and according to 93% of key informants there has been an increase in the number since the beginning of the crisis in Libya in February 2011 (whilst 7% said they were unsure).

The figure below which correlates with Question 16.1 of the questionnaire, provides an overview of the sources of evidence for the above responses suggested by the key informants. 40% of the key informants said their response was based on the fact that they personally knew children associated with the armed groups, 30% said that children are openly visible as part of the armed groups, 25% said that many children had disappeared and were suspected to be a part of the armed groups, and lastly 5% said they had heard people talking about children associated with armed groups.

Q16.1: What is the evidence for the increase in child recruitment into armed groups?
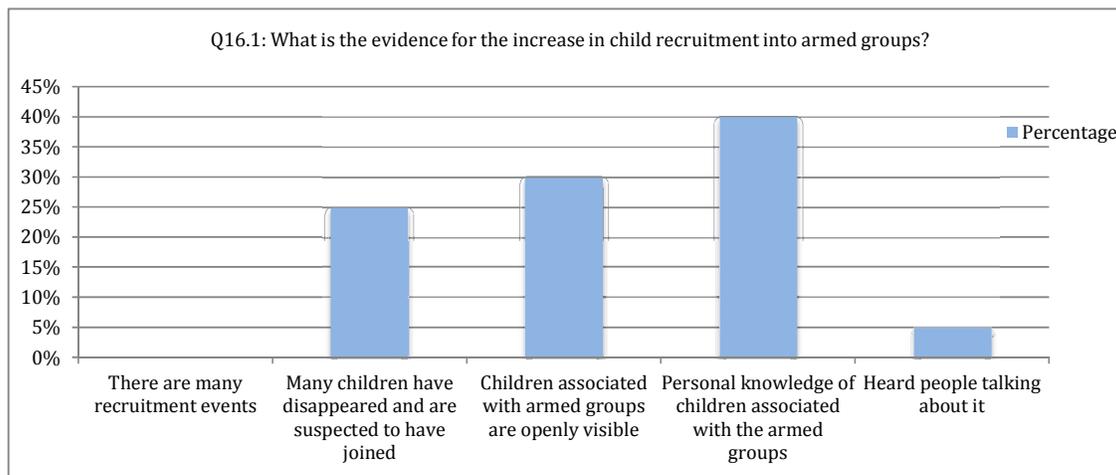
The respondents (93%) who suggested there had been an increase in the number of children associated were asked how many of these children they had seen over the past 2 months. The replies, represented in the figure opposite, suggest that the majority (57%) said between 51-100 children, 14% said over 100 children, 14% said they were not sure and 7% said between 1-10 and 11-50 children respectively.
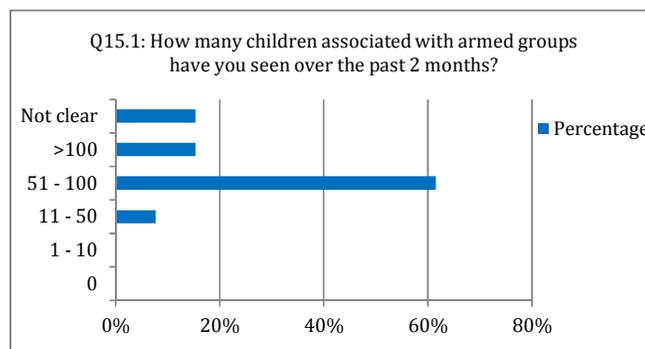
Q15.1: How many children associated with armed groups have you seen over the past 2 months?

The key informants suggested that boys as young as 13 years were joining the armed groups voluntarily. In terms of the process for joining the armed groups, key informants suggested that there were a few different ways this occurred:

- Some boys, especially adolescents, joined their fathers in the pro-revolutionary groups
- Some boys left their families on their own to join the pro-revolutionary and pro-Gaddafi groups. To provide an example for this, one of the key informants met in Kambout village in Tataouine was a man who has three children (one 18 years old and the other two younger) who had been fighting with the pro-Gaddafi groups. The man said they had initially joined voluntarily and now that they wanted to stop were not allowed to enter into Tunisia at the Dehiba border by border controls.
- Some boys were kidnapped and forced into the armed groups (note that this was only suggested for Gaddafi's militia)
- Some families were offered money by Gaddafi militia for their sons to join. In two sites, Ghannouch Nord and Médenine Sud, key informants told us that Gaddafi's militia also offered money to families for sending their children to join them. They mentioned that the 'enlèvement' (abduction) of children occurred at school and during protests.

In terms of the roles children associated with armed groups take on, key informants suggested the for the children a part of the revolutionaries, responsibilities include helping with training, surveillance, collecting water and wood, and bringing food to the combatants. A UN mission to Nafusa Mountains in early July confirmed that although no child combatants were sighted, many young men of 18-19 years were seen on the border and check points in uniforms. [53] Adolescents are said to support with other noncombat support activities e.g. off-loading assistance, cleaning warehouses, etc.

Q16.2: How do children join the armed groups?
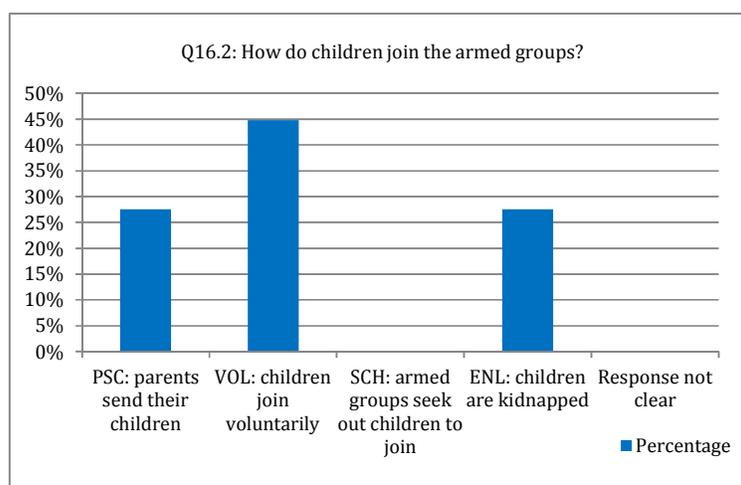
According to the key informants, children who joined Gaddafi's militia were, however, used as combatants in armed fights regardless of whether they were adults or not. This information has not been confirmed. It is true though, that according to Libyan law even though the age of compulsory recruitment into the armed forces is 18 years, article 1 of Mobilization Act No. 21 of 1991 allows for persons of 17 years to, among other things, engage in combat. [54]

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[53] OCHA, *United Nations Security and Humanitarian Access Mission: Wazin, Nalut, Jadu, Zintan*. 30 June and 1 July 2011.

[54] Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya*, 4 July 2003. CRC/C/15/Add.209
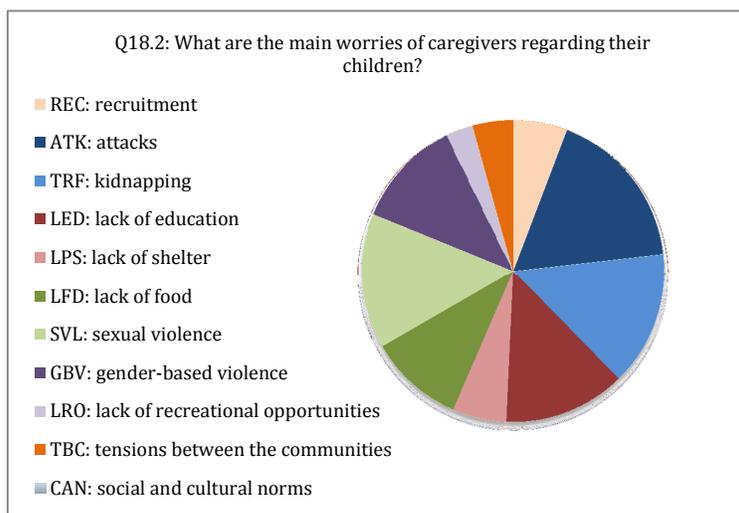
4.2.5. Psychosocial distress

In the majority of the sites, parents of children described to assessors signs of psychosocial distress they had identified in their children. Symptoms described included children having nightmares, not sleeping well, acting 'clingy' and not wanting to let their parents out of their sight, acting edgy and jumpy and in a number of cases parents said that the behaviour and language of their children was more aggressive than before. One extreme case encountered by the assessment team in Hessi Amor was the case of a 4 year old girl who stopped speaking during the last day of the 8 day heavy bombardment occurring in Zintan. She has not spoken since and her parents are very worried about her.

Similar signs of distress were noted by children who are still in Nafusa Mountains. According to the UN mission team that visited the area, women and children expressed signs of emotional disturbance and indicated a lack of sleep, nightmares, etc. Children expressed a fear of loud sounds which they associated with the conflict.[55]
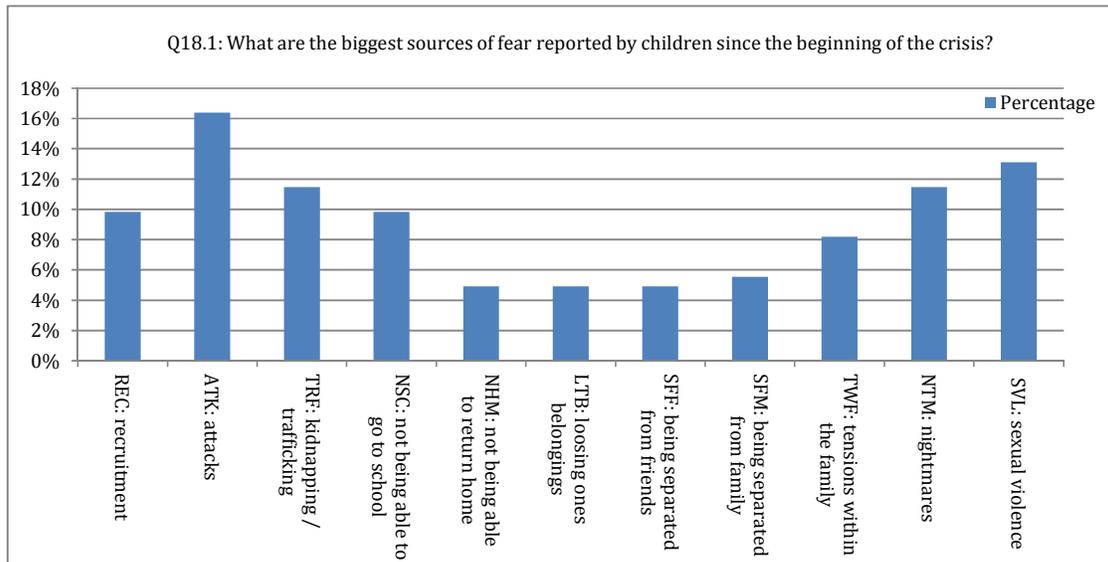
Q18.1: What are the biggest sources of fear reported by children since the beginning of the crisis?

According to parents, the biggest source of fear reported by their children since the beginning of the crisis in Libya was: attacks (16%), sexual violence (13%), nightmares (11%), abduction (11%), forcible recruitment (10%), not being able to return home (10%), not being able to go to school (10%), tensions within the family (8%), being separated from family members (6%), being separated from friends (5%), losing belongings (5%).

Q18.2: What are the main worries of caregivers regarding their children?

REC: recruitment
ATK: attacks
TRF: kidnapping
LED: lack of education
LPS: lack of shelter
LFD: lack of food
SVL: sexual violence
GBV: gender-based violence
LRO: lack of recreational opportunities
TBC: tensions between the communities
CAN: social and cultural norms

The main worries of caregivers for their children are reflected in the adjacent pie chart. These include suffering from attacks (17%), abduction or abductions (17%), sexual violence (14%), a lack of education (13%), gender-based violence (12%), a lack of food (10%), recruitment of their children into armed groups (6%), a lack of shelter (6%), tension between communities (4%) and a lack of recreational opportunities (3%).

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[55] OCHA, *United Nations Security and Humanitarian Access Mission: Wazin, Nalut, Jadu, Zintan*. 30 June and 1 July 2011.

The main sources of stress for the parents, on the other hand, were first of all worry about the security of their children, not having an income, a lack of food, having lost belongings, being separated from family members, rumours circulating, a lack of shelter and lastly a lack of information was identified by parents as a source of stress. These are listed in the table to the left with the corresponding percentage.

Sources of stress for parents	Percentage
CPS: the security of their children	20%
LLH: having no source of income	17%
LFD: lack of food	17%
LPT: having lost their belongings	14%
SEP: being separated from family	13%
RUM: rumours	9%
LSH: lack of shelter	6%
LIN: a lack of information	4%

Given that many Libyan families have very strongly defined gender roles and since many male head of households are not with the families in Tunisia but fighting in Libya, the assessors asked key informants to describe whether there have been changes in the roles and responsibilities in the household since the beginning of the crisis in Libya. 87% of the key informants responded affirmatively to this question, 7% said no and 7% did not give a clear answer.

In terms of the changes in roles and responsibilities that have taken place, key informants mentioned the following:
- In some families the women are carrying out duties that would otherwise be carried out by the male head of household. In Ghannouch, for example, the key informant interviewed said that she was now going to the souk (market) which she would never have done before.
- In some families, children are now carrying out duties that would otherwise be carried out by the male head of household. In Médenine Sud, for example, for one of the families interviewed, an 18 year old boy has taken on the responsibility of 8 related families. In a similar example from Dehiba Est, the eldest son in a family with a women and five children including a pair of four year old twins, has taken responsibility for the family

For younger children some of the changes in their responsibilities have included an increase in household chores to take care of and some are involved with the collection of relief items.

In a few sites, namely Medenine and Ghannouch, parents of children had organized themselves to ensure that children were participating in regular recreational activities. In Ghannouch, parents had even set up their own impromptu educational classes with Libyan teachers.

In most of the sites, however, children remained home for most of the day with little exchange with other children or adults. The phenomenon witness in the majority of the households is that children remain at home all the time. In some cases they have a television to watch, but in many cases they are left to entertain themselves with their siblings. Especially the girls are more or less confined to the house and leave much less frequently than their brothers to play or amuse themselves outside. For families where the father is with them, younger children often leave the house together with the father to go to the mosque, to the beach or the marketplace. In many instances for many families, the fathers are not with them, however.

4.2.6 Education
Libyan families that remain in Tunisia will face the question of what to do about their children's education once the summer break is over and schooling resumes in September. Even though the Tunisian Ministry of Education has decreed that schools need to be open to and welcome Libyan students, it remains to be seen how well this will work. Given that the Tunisian school system uses a different curriculum, this will be challenging.

As part of the rapid assessment, the assessment teams asked key informants whether Libyan parents would support their children to attend school in Tunisia. The reply was a resounding 'yes'. 100% of key informants asked said they would not hesitate to send their children to local schools should they still be in Tunisia in September for the beginning of the new school year.

In fact, some key informants pointed out that this would be a chance for their children given that the Tunisian education system is respected as superior to the system in Libya. According to a rapid needs assessment

conducted by Save the Children in East Libya in March 2011, "The school curriculum [in Libya] is limited, with the emphasis placed on the Green Book [which sets out the political manifesto of Muammar Gaddafi], Arabic, Islamic Studies and Mathematics."[56]

5. Key Recommendations

The recommendations are divided into more general recommendations first, and child protection specific recommendations in section 5.2

5.1. Recommendations relating to other sectorial responses

- Mapping of the NFI distributions that are being carried out in the gouvernorats by local associations as well as international organisations. Based on gaps identified, carry out hygiene kit distributions including nappies for families with young infants, in areas not being reached at present

- Monitoring of the WFP vouchers to see if families are able to address the gap in age-appropriate food and non-food items for children raised earlier.

5.2 Child Protection programmatic priorities

- Develop stronger linkage between the Zarzis based Child Protection sub-Working Group for Tunisia and the Protection Cluster for the Libyan Crisis. Contingency and response planning should be carried out with the inputs of both groups.

- Develop stronger linkage between the Zarzis based Child Protection sub-Working Group for Tunisia and the Child Protection sub-Cluster in Benghazi. Regular information sharing as well as the sharing of materials and response plans would be beneficial.

- Develop a child protection monitoring system for Tunisia and Libya built on a network of individuals, organisations and government departments such as MAS and MAF who already have a presence in different locations in western Libya and Tunisia who could regularly provide information on the situations as well as child protection risks and issues of concern.

Separated and Unaccompanied Children
- Follow up with the Libyan Red Crescent about whether they have more information about the children said to be orphaned in Libya and brought to Tunisia. Continue to follow-up with authorities and associations to find out more about the children who were said to be brought to hospitals in Kébili and Douze and a children's centre in Djerba.

- At the national level, follow-up with the authorities in charge of adoptions to find out more about adoptions that are or may have taken place. Further information is required on where they occurring, through what mechanism and what risks are presented for children in the process.

- Provide capacity building to the border monitors in Dehiba and Ras Ajdir to identify separated children entering into, and leaving Tunisia. Specific procedures, as part of the existing mechanism in Ras Ajdir, could be drafted together with the Délègues a la Protection de l'Enfance on what to do if separated children are identified at the border. This could be replicated in Dehiba.

Threats to Children's Physical Safety and Security
- Based on gaps identified with UNHCR and MAG, develop and support additional Risk Education activities for children and their families in the southern Tunisian gouvernorats. Linkages with Handicap International in Benghazi could be pursued who have carried out mine risk awareness work in Libya and have developed material for distribution.

Sexual and Gender-based Violence
- Similar to the UNHCR western Libya mission to Sfax and Djerba in May, 2011, regular visits to hospitals and medical centres in Médenine, Tataouine and Gabès should be undertaken and contact

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[56] Save the Children, (Draft) Rapid Needs Assessment, East Libya: March 1-14, 2011.

with medical personnel strengthened to gain a better insight into the situation of the GBV cases received at the hospitals.

- Build the capacity building of service providers, including medical personnel, on how to identify and respond to sexual and gender-based violence against adults as well as children.

- Discuss with UNHCR and MAF options for the design and usage of the Complex d'Enfants in Remada, as it is currently being thought to provide shelter to survivors of GBV as well as separated and unaccompanied children and it is meant to offer recreational activities for children of the neighbourhood during the day. Not only is this mix unfavourable but especially given what is known about social rehabilitation facilities in Libya being the way that girls and women are dealt with to protect them from the an honour crime committed by family members, the centre approach needs to be considered sensitively.

Children associated with armed Groups

- Develop an advocacy strategy with child protection members of the CP sub-Working Group in Tunisia, the CP sub-Cluster in Benghazi as well as members of the Protection Cluster for Libya on the association of children and armed groups. Messages should be tailored to actors party to the conflict, donor governments and other humanitarian actors, based on systematic information collected and updated on an on-going basis.

Psychosocial support

- Provide support to Libyan parents reassuring them that many of the behaviours their children are exhibiting are normal. Awareness raising through sessions, using the outreach workers or distribution of materials about the signs and symptoms children show after distressing events would be helpful.

- Map out specialist actors and facilities available in southern Tunisia for referral of cases in needs of additional support.

Activities for youth

- Age-appropriate and, where required, sex-segregated activities should be organized by organizations active in the areas where Libyan refugees are being hosted. Activities for youth and adolescents, for example, should be considered as there are no activities for this age group in most areas.

- Identify ways organisations such as Save the Children, ATSR and/or ONFP could raise awareness amongst camp-based and urban populations on sexual and reproductive health as was requested by two key informants in Remada camp.

Annex I: Description of the Sites visited

Name of site	Type	Est. Libyan population	Key Informants interviewed	Origin of the key informants	Identification of key informants through	Organisations / Associations present in the sites
Kambout	Rural	60 individuals	7 Libyan families	Nalut, Zintan	Director of the Complex de l'Enfance in Remada, Teacher at the Complex de l'Enfance, Local leader	None
Dehiba Est	Urban	70 individuals	6 Libyan families	Wazin (6 km from the border)	Assistant social de l'unité local des affaires sociales	Association Wafa, Association Ashab Alkhaeir, TRC
Cite El Mahrajen	Urban	30 individuals	7 Libyan families	Nalut, Wazin	Délègue à la Protection de l'Enfants, Representative of the Comité de la Cite	Libyan Red Crescent, Association Wafa, World for Libya, ATSR, Comité de Secours de la Population Libyenne
Essmar	Rural	120 individuals	7 Libyan families	Yifran, El Gala, Nalut, Zintan, Wazin	TRC distribution site focal person, Member of the Comité de Secours de la Population Libyenne	TRC, Comité de Secours de la Population Libyenne
Graguer	Rural	30 individuals	7 Libyan families	Nalut, Zintan, Yifran	Representative of Secour de la Population Libyenne en Tunisie, Member of the CPR	Comité de la Protection de la Révolution (CPR)
Dehiba Camp	Camp	0 individuals, only military personnel at entry	N/A	N/A	None	None
Ksar Oun	Rural	60 families (420 individuals)	8 Libyan families	Zintan, Nalut, Kikla, Jedou	Délégation de Smar, Member of the CPR, Assistant social d'Unité local des affaires sociales	None
Ghomrassen I	Urban	30 families (210 individuals)	9 Libyan families	Zintan, Nalut, Kalar	ATSR staff member, TRC volunteer, Member of the CPR,	ATSR, TRC, ATSR, Association Noor, Tataouine, Association de Microcredit, Union de Solidarite Social
Remada camp	Camp	23 families (150 individuals)	6 Libyan families	Zintan, Nalut, Kalar, Takout	UNHCR Camp Manager	UNHCR, Deccra, Islamic Relief, ACT Alliance
Erragouba	Rural	50 families (350 families)	7 Libyan families	Zintan, Nalout, Rehibet, Rogben, Zadou, Kikla, El Houmet, Yifran	Representative of the Unité de Santé Publique, Representative of Unité local des affaires sociales	ATSR, TRC, Association Tunisie Alkhaireya, Comité de la Protection de la Révolution (CPR)
Hessi Amor	Rural	71 families (497 individuals)	7 Libyan families, 1 Social worker	Nalout, Zintan, Hewemed	Representative of Unité local des affaires sociales, Representative of ATSR	Association Tunisie Alkhaireya, TRC, Comité de la Protection de la Révolution

2 Mai	Urban	12 families (84 individuals)	7 Libyan families	Zintan, Nalout, Nafousa	Representative of the CPR	Comité de la Protection de la Révolution (CPR), TRC and Scouts
Médenine Sud	Urban	145 families (1015 individuals)	7 Libyan families, 1 group of adolescent boys, 1 Member of the CPR		Representative of the CPR, Representative from the Scouts	Comité de la Protection de la Révolution (CPR), Scouts, Union Tunisien de la Solidarité, Association Tunisie Alkhaireya, Médenine
Ksar Jdid	Rural	28 families (196 individuals)	5 Libyan families	Nalout, Zintan	Representative of the Comité de la Protection de la Révolution, Representative of Unité local des affaires sociale	TRC, Scouts
Dkhilet Toujen	Rural	35 families (245 individuals)	3 families	Nalout, Zintan	Président of the Association Tunisie Alkhaireya	L'Association Tunisie Alkhaireya, Association Secour de la Population Libyenne, Comité de la Protection de la Révolution
Ghannouch Nord	Urban	80 families (560 individuals)	8 Libyan families, 1 Teacher	Nalout, Zintan, Kabau, Zwara	Conseille pédagogique d'enfance	Comité des leaders communautaire, Comité de grands hommes, Comité de la Protection de la Révolution (CPR)