

7 December 2017, Tunis – In continuation of its response to the emergency situation in Libya, the World Health Organization has provided this week basic Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) with supplementary kits to Benghazi where 750 000 people are located in addition to hundreds of internally displaced families. These supplies have been funded by the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO).

WHO, in collaboration with Premiere Urgence Internationale, delivered 10 basic IEHK and supplementary IEHK to 3 mobile clinics to start their activities in Benghazi. The kits have been designed to treat more than 10 000 people. These supplies are much needed especially with great shortages of essential medical supplies in the hospitals of Benghazi.

Due to the complex situation in Benghazi, health care services have been affected. Hospitals are not working at full capacity and are faced with a lack of medical staff and essential medical supplies, including medicines and equipment. The well-equipped mobile clinics provide urgent health care services to the population there.

Dr Syed Jaffar Hussain, WHO Representative in Libya, expressed appreciation of the continuous support of both ECHO and PUI that have facilitated WHO's response to the urgent needs of the underserved populations in Libya. "The health situation in Libya is worsening and constraints facing the health system ever increasing. With delivery of life-saving medicines and supplies, WHO will contribute to saving the lives of thousands of people. I extend my gratitude to ECHO for its financial support through which WHO has been able to support the Ministry of Health and partners in the provision of life-saving medicines and supplies," Dr Hussain said.

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