

## WHO Country Office, Libya

### Situation Update #3: East Coast Daniel Storm

14 September 2023

#### Overall Situation

On Sunday 10 September, Storm Daniel violently hit the eastern coast of Libya. The cities of Benghazi, Al Marj, Al Bayda, Batah, Bayada, Shahat Sousa, and Derna were battered by strong winds and heavy rainfall that led to significant flooding.

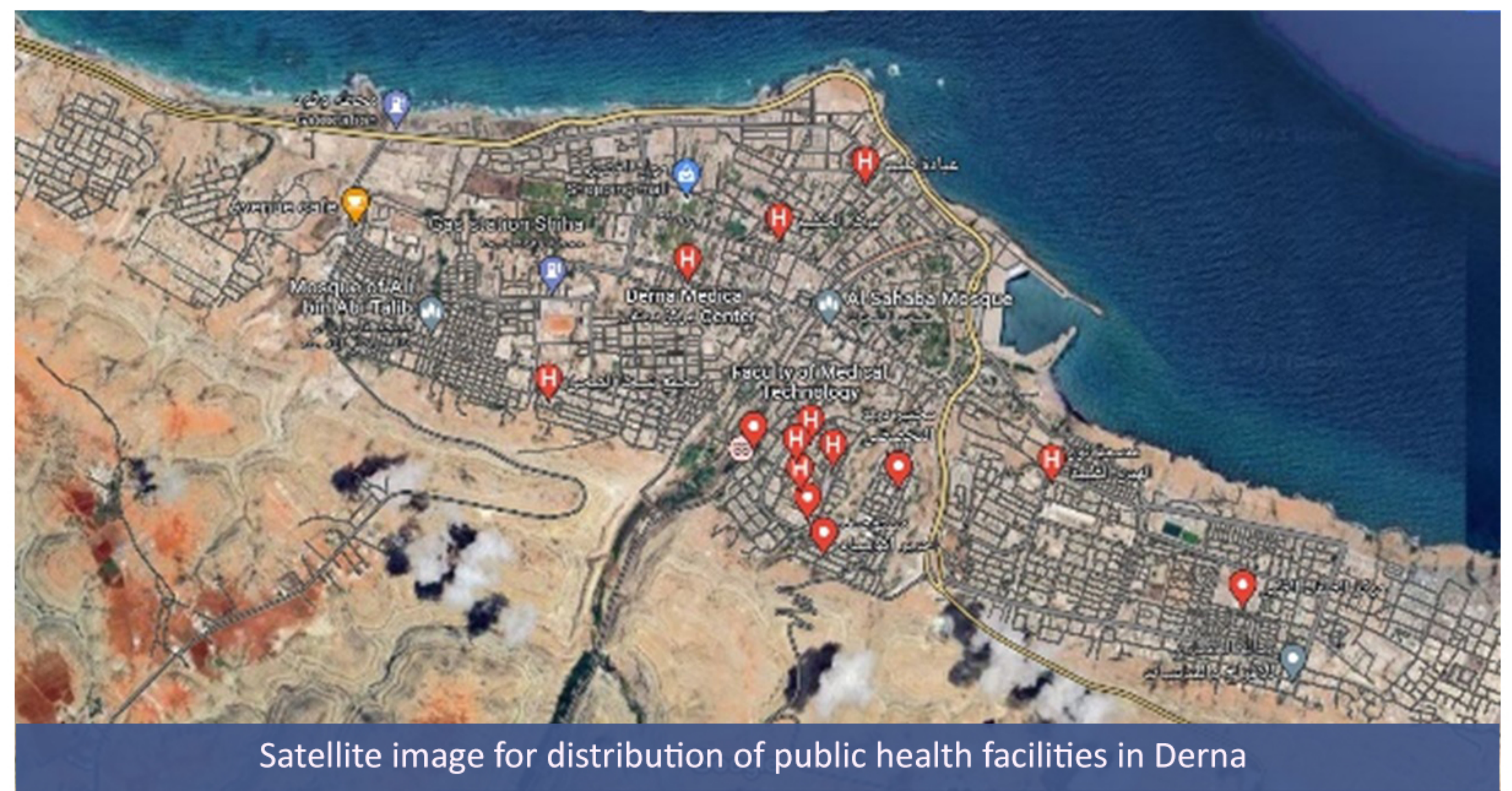
The affected areas (districts) are home to approximately 1.5 million people.

Derna, the city worst hit by this disaster, has been devastated and thousands of people have been killed. Although electricity and internet connections are being gradually restored in one part of the city, basic and social services remain severely disrupted.

#### Health Situation

##### Reported deaths and missed persons

A WHO team has rapidly assessed the availability of and access to health services in Derna.



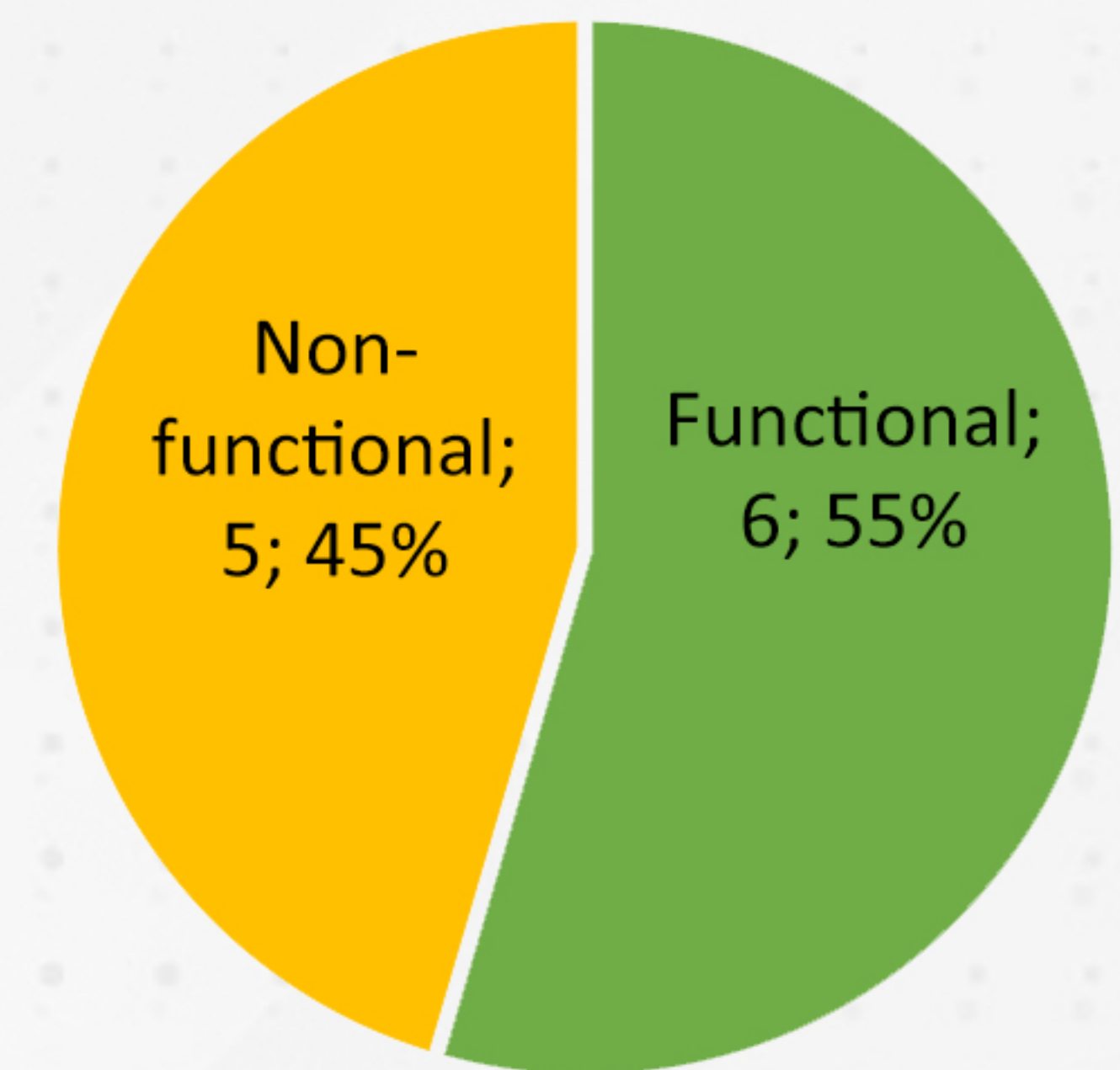
Satellite image for distribution of public health facilities in Derna

##### Reported deaths, missing, and displaced persons, based on the assessment results

- Deaths: the number of confirmed deaths is 3922 according to official hospital records in Derna. Given the magnitude of the crisis, the death toll is expected to increase rapidly. Most deaths have been reported from Derna (3822 people buried with death certificates). The other 100 deaths have been reported in other affected areas in Al Jabal Al Akhdar and Al Marj districts.
- Missing: more than 9000.
- Displaced: more than 25 000.

## Health facilities situation analysis

Health facilities in Derna have been severely damaged. Of the 11 facilities assessed by WHO so far, five are non-functional (see chart below), either because the buildings are damaged or because there are few or no staff to manage the facility.



## Affected communities

The population in the affected areas are in deep shock. Many traumatized children in Derna have been separated from their families. There is a huge need for mental health and psychosocial support services.

## Urgent Needs for Supplies

In addition to the need for body bags and other supplies reported by the MoH, the medicines and medical equipment listed below were identified as urgently needed by health facilities in Derna.



### Medicines, supplies, and vaccines

- NCD medicines to treat patients with hypertension, blood pressure and heart disease
- Oral antibiotics
- Topical antibiotics
- Painkillers
- Anti-pyretics (paracetamol tablets, syrup)
- Ventolin nebulizer
- Oxygen mask with nebulizer machines
- Abdominal gauze (sterile)
- Sterile gauze
- Gloves

## Equipment

- Autoclaves 60 L
- Portable DC Shock
- Portable ventilators



### WHO Response to date

- An airlift carrying 28 metric tonnes of surgical and emergency kits, medicines, cholera laboratory kits, infusions, renewables, basic surgical instruments and available stocks of body bags will arrive in Libya on 16 September 2023.
- A Flash Appeal has been finalized. The Central Emergency Response Fund has allocated USD 3 million for the health component of the emergency response.
- WHO has completed a rapid assessment of the availability of and access to health services in Derna.
- WHO is dispatching NCD kits to Derna to rapidly respond to the significant needs reported in today's assessment visit by the WHO team.

## Coordination with partners

- WHO is part of the UN interagency rapid needs assessment mission that begins on Friday 16 September. The priority locations and health facilities to be visited include Derna, Shahat, Al Bayda and Al Marj.
- WHO is working with UN partners and national and international agencies to coordinate a joint response to emerging mental health and psychosocial support needs



A team from WHO conducted an assessment mission to the affected health facilities in shahat directorate and handed over an ambulance to support the referral

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