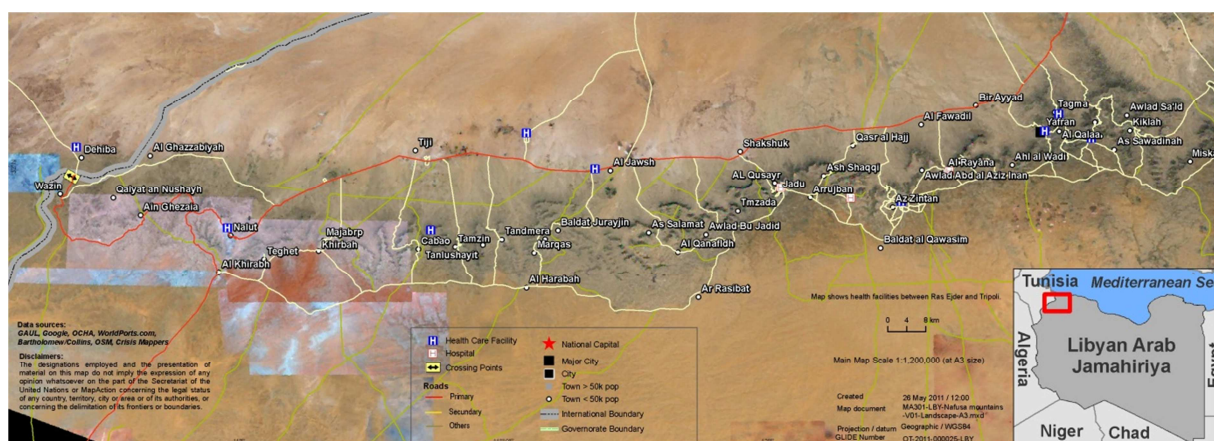




United Nations Security and Humanitarian Access Mission

Wazin – Nalut – Jadu – Zintan, 30 June and 1 July 2011



This report outlines key observations and recommendations of the **United Nations Inter-Agency Security and Humanitarian Access Mission to the Nafusa Mountains of Libya**. Given the limited time in each location as a result of long distances travelled and the focus of the mission on determining secure humanitarian access, data and indicators outlined in this report should only be used as an indicative guide. It requires further comprehensive validation by future inter-agency assessment missions, with longer time frames and more comprehensive surveying and data gathering. Each section outlines further information and action required. **Primary Recommendations are listed in Section 12 - HCT Strategic Humanitarian Priorities.**

1. Mission Overview

From Thursday 30 June and Friday 1 July 2011 the United Nations concluded its first inter-agency mission inside the Nafusa Mountains in Libya. The mission was led by OCHA and consisted of representatives from the Food Security Cluster (WFP), Logistics Cluster (WFP), Protection Cluster (UNHCR) and WASH Cluster (UNICEF).

Security was provided by UNDSS who conducted security coordination with relevant actors, assessments and logistics. They were supported by UNHCR security in providing security coverage during the mission.

The mission pre-positioned on Wednesday 29 June from Tataouine in Tunisia 117 kilometres from the border. UNDSS undertook an advance security assessment liaising with Tunisian security, customs and immigration and Opposition forces. On Thursday the UN team crossed the Tunisia/Libya border at Dehiba, with visa and customs clearance with the Tunisian authorities facilitated by UNDSS. The mission visited the town of Wazin and then Nalut which is 65 kilometres inland. On Friday the mission returned to the border and travelled to Jadu 188 kilometres inland and Zintan 221 kilometres from the border and 33 kilometres from Jadu. (Please see the route outlined in the attached Map 302A). The mission was facilitated by the Libyan Red Crescent (LRC) and deconfliction was undertaken with the Government of Libya (GOL), Opposition forces and NATO.

In general there were few women and children seen in the streets of the areas visited partially due to heat and cultural/security considerations. There were most families reported in Zintan and Jadu; less in Nalut due to security conditions and water and electricity shortages; and a very small number in Wazin. Monitors from UNHCR at the Dehiba Tunisia/Libya border crossing point are collecting information on returns and trucks entering with food aid and some Libyan NGOs are also collecting information on the return movements. This data was also used in the Mission Report.

Route from Dehiba to towns visited

Extensive plotting of road conditions, key infrastructure, telecommunications and trucking was undertaken on route by UNDSS and by the mission.

Wazin (on the border inside Libya)

In Wazin the mission was accompanied by local residents to ten damaged housing locations and toured the affected area.

Nalut (65 kilometres inland)

In Nalut the mission met with the President of the Libyan Red Crescent (Nalut Section), with members of the Local Council and NGO staff. The mission visited the hospital, the main food warehouses (wheat flour and general), the store for NFIs and a small number of households. A tour was made of the town to examine infrastructure.

Jadu (188 kilometres inland)

In Jadu the mission met with staff of the committee at the main food and NFI warehouse. A short tour was made of the town to examine infrastructure.

Zintan (221 kilometres inland)

In Zintan the mission met with the head of the Military Council for security briefings coordinated by UNDSS. The mission then met the chair of the Local Council. The mission visited the hospital and the main warehouse for food and other relief items run by Iklas a local NGO. A short tour was made of the town to examine infrastructure.

2. Objectives

The object of the Inter-Agency Mission was to assess security and humanitarian access from the Dehiba Tunisia/Wazin Libya border crossing point to the towns of Nalut, Jadu and Zintan, with a view to preparing inter-agency and inter-sectoral needs assessments in the near future.

The mission focused on the following priority areas:

- 1. SECURITY/HUMANITARIAN ACCESS.**
- 2. FOOD SECURITY.**
- 3. LOGISTICS.**
- 4. WASH.**
- 5. PROTECTION.**
- 6. UN HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION.**
- 7. FUTURE ASSESSMENT MISSIONS.**

3. Methodology

This Mission Report follows the framework based upon the Multi-Cluster/Sector Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) approach under development by IASC. Further more comprehensive technical data like warehouse space, truck types, roads, water points etc. will be recorded in a later technical reports being prepared by individual agencies and clusters.

4. Situation Overview - Impact, Scale and Severity

1. What is the type of crisis?

2. What is the geographical extent of the affected area?

3. How many people are affected?

The Nafusa Mountains, a region in western Libya, has been the scene of intense fighting between the Government of Libya forces and Opposition groups since mid-March 2011. Many towns have been affected by the fighting and a range of humanitarian needs have been reported as a result. The mountains run northeast from the border with Tunisia at Wazin and ending in Ghayran, 94 km south of Tripoli. The majority of the population were 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. The Berbers are the largest ethnic minority (5 percent) in Libya and are indigenous to North Africa.

Significant displacement has been reported from the region. UNHCR estimates that since the start of the conflict, over 100,000 Libyans have been displaced from the Nafusa Mountains and other parts of western Libya into Tunisia, where they are largely hosted by local communities. Approximately 2,200 Libyan refugees live in three different camps in Tataouine Governorate in addition to those living in urban settings. Others from the Nafusa Mountains have been displaced within Libya. The remaining population in the region is approximately 180,000, although estimates vary due to fluid population movement. (Sources: Libya 2006 census; projected population figures for 2010; Jabal Nafusa Municipal Councils; Libyan Solidarity groups)

During the mission it appeared that there were more people coming back to Libya than those departing.

With the arrival of the fasting month of Ramadan the general trend is for Libyans in Tunisia to return to their homes in the Nafusa Mountains. This will place pressure on villages providing basic rations. There are additional food commodity requirements for the month. The month is also a time with excessive heat, which will impact people lacking electricity, fuel and water. As a result people from Nalut in particular are planning to depart for Tunisia, according to the Local Council if the electricity is not re-established in the coming weeks.

3a. Wazin.

The small border town of Wazin is almost empty and was the most damaged location visited by the mission. The pre-conflict population of Wazin was 3,800 people (2006 estimate). There are now only 500 people remaining including 10 elderly people who have chosen to stay. According to remaining inhabitants interviewed this represents less than 10 percent of the pre-conflict population.

3b. Nalut

There is little visible damage to housing and public buildings, with the hospital and main warehouse facilities intact and working. Nonetheless the sense of insecurity is very present especially among families. There had been no power for the past two weeks as the power station in GOL controlled areas was affected and electricity stopped.

There is generated power in the hospital. The patients have been moved to the lower floor and wards have been consolidated, to conserve energy and provide for protection from shelling. The surgery theatre has not been able to be moved from higher floors.

According to the Local Council and the Libya Red Crescent the pre-conflict population of the town was estimated at 30,000 people (based on distribution lists). The Local Council estimates that 50 percent of the inhabitants of the town remained. That is about 15,000 people, most of which are adult men. No data could be collected about the surrounding areas. The Local Council and LRC both indicated as Ramadan arrives, if electricity and water remain cut off, a large part of the remaining population will move to Tunisia.

3c. Jadu

There is little visible damage to housing and public buildings, with the main warehouse facilities intact and working. The pre-conflict population of Jadu and surrounds was 77,000 (based on distribution lists).

According to the local relief committee 90 percent of the town population has returned. In Jadu town of the original 3,000 families (15,000 people), 2,700 families have registered at relief centre representing approximately 13,500 people. In addition there are 650 families originally from Jadu who had fled Tripoli, representing approximately 3,320 people. They have been accommodated with existing families; however the teenage boys of this group are accommodated in a school for cultural reasons. The committee also reported that there had been 180 IDP families (900 people) from Yafran, Qala and Kikla but only 46 of these families still remaining in Jadu, representing approximately 230 people. The remainder returned back to their homes when their villages changed control to the Opposition.

3d. Zintan

There is little visible damage to housing and public buildings, with the hospital and main warehouse facilities intact and working. The pre-conflict population of Zintan town was 30,000 (based on distribution lists) and is now estimated to be 17,000. The Local Council stated that 90 percent of the families are predicted to return before Ramadan starts (August). Many families were seen returning to Zintan on the route from Dehiba to Zintan. A needs assessment is currently being carried out by the Local Council.

The Opposition military commander in Zintan reported that the authorities are envisaging opening a camp, if required, in local schools to accommodate displaced from Garyan, Assabia Kikla, Qalar, and Tripoli if and when fighting reaches those areas.

The Local Council reported that the displaced people from Yafran had started returning to their homes now that these areas were under the control of the Opposition forces. An assessment of their needs in food is to be undertaken rapidly by WFP.

4.1 Further information/action required

- Data of those crossing to Tunisia and back to Libya.
- Returnees, displaced, affected.
- Household registration of IDPs and refugees.
- Profiling. Disaggregated data on women, men, boys and girls

5. Needs

4. What are the immediate needs of the population?

5. How does the crisis affect livelihoods?

6. How does the crisis affect access to basic services and goods?

5a. General

Under normal conditions most of the food supplies in the towns visited came from the North coast - Tripoli (apart from food smuggled from Tunisia). There was no significant production of food in the area except for subsistence farming on small farms in the valleys and animal husbandry. The areas were included in the Public Distribution System with subsidised basic food commodities.

As a result of the conflict towns in the Nafusa Mountains under Opposition control have been cut off from the Tripoli supply chain. There has been a dramatic loss of earnings due to lack of payment of public workers and access to cash. Markets are not functioning due to lack of supplies, due to limited fuel in country and very limited availability of cash.

Due to the fighting, lack of power, water shortages, lack of cash and displacement many farmers have sold their animals at reduced prices. Unless the supply chain of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is re-established, access to cash is restored and commercial activity resumes – the population will remain completely dependent on food assistance to cover basic needs.

There is a critical shortage of animal protein including milk, cheese, meat, eggs, etc. and fruits/vegetables which will impact the nutritional status of vulnerable groups if it continues for a length of time after families return. There are some ad hoc donations of these items by Libyan diaspora groups. However, this is not a predictable pipeline and will be insufficient to cover all the need in cases of massive return of the population. The population are already reported to be resorting to negative coping mechanisms including selling livestock, jewellery and any other remaining assets to buy/exchange for vegetables and other essential items.

In the towns visited vaccination has not been affected. Vaccines and refrigerators were moved from Health Centres to main hospitals to ensure power supply. There is a shortage of Polio and BCG vaccines in Nalut and Zintan in addition to Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR) vaccines in Zintan. Health officials indicated that they were purchasing supplies from Tunisia and that the cold chain had been maintained.

Shortages of doctors and paramedics were evident in the two hospitals, with less effect in Nalut as there is still a small population. Some foreign doctors and nurses were seen and indicated that they have decided to stay, but are still waiting for their outstanding pay for over four months.

Currently there are no injuries as result of Explosive Remnant of War (ERW) according to the two hospitals visited. However, with the return of families children will be exposed to this risk. There was no evidence sighted of child combatants, however many young men of 18-19 years were seen on the border and check points in uniforms. UNICEF has discussed this with a visiting delegation from the Religious Affairs Department of Benghazi to include this issue in their advocacy and teachings.

Across the areas visited schools are closed and currently some were reported to be used as lodging and training facilities for the Opposition forces.

People have no access to cash as all banks in the area are closed and cash withdrawals are restricted.

The road from the border to the different locations is good and reasonably safe. There is one lane in each direction – around 5 metres wide. The road surface was very good allowing fast travel. Construction and engineering equipment was in evidence across the route. A number of large trucks and transporters were sighted, including fuel trucks and small and large tankers. Semi-remorque trucks, medium trucks and most were about 20 tons in capacity. Trucks coming from Tunisia were carrying assorted food commodities, mineral water and animal feed supplies. Camels were sighted going out for selling in Tunisia, indicative of a coping strategy.

As a result of UNDSS coordination with senior command of the Opposition forces, there was a smooth passage through all checkpoints with no queues. Road signs were clear and new signs had been erected around the key areas.

At one Rhehebat checkpoint, the road has been recently transformed into a 50 metre wide and 1 kilometre long runway with clear markings and arrows. According to the checkpoint staff, it had already received some aircraft.

Large electrical infrastructure was sighted from Nalut to Zintan. However, except in the areas closer to Zintan, the lines were not connected. Near the turn off to Kabaw electrical wires are up. The mission sighted workers lifting a high voltage transformer and repairing wires.

Three large unfinished “model village” housing complexes were sighted along the route. Warehouses in many locations were sighted along the route.

5b. Wazin

Security remains the key concern for the few remaining residents of Wazin and hinders the return of the rest of the population. Wazin has been severely damaged by continued rocket attacks which occurred up until late June. Extensive post-crisis reconstruction, repair of roads and removal of debris will be required. The mission saw clear evidence of the existence of UXOs. Wazin currently has no water or electricity.

Livelihoods in Wazin have been completely interrupted. There is no animal feed or care for animals and pets left behind abandoned houses. There is no irrigation for gardens and farms in the valley. The conflict has induced mass displacement.

5c. Nalut

In all the locations visited markets appeared to be closed. No fresh vegetables and fruits are available locally but people are bringing a few items from Tunisia. Nalut has no electricity or pumped water. Only three of the twelve bakeries are functioning, with the departure of foreign bakers and the lack of electricity. Staff at the hospital indicated there was a shortage of fresh food for patients and provided a list of needs. A need for hygiene kits/items was also raised by a few families and the Local Council.

The situation of water before the uprising was reported by the Local Council and the people as not sufficient, saline and not connected to all houses. The sources for the town water supply were two – the Great Man Made River (GMMR) and through a pipe feeding a big water reservoir in the valley bed near the town and about 4-5 boreholes whose water is pumped also to the big reservoir. The water from this reception reservoir is pumped up the hill to another big reservoir and from there the water is distributed to the houses by gravity. Electricity was the main source for power generation for pumping the water.

A household head visited by the mission, reported that the water piped into the houses has been always saline and mainly used for domestic functions rather than drinking. Households drink some water treated at the household level or at three private plants, to lessen the salinity of the water or use bottled water.

Traditionally water harvesting is an important source of drinking water in the Nafusa Mountains, drawn from the roofs of houses, particularly during winter. The water from the roofs is collected in an underground reservoir. The water was tested and found to be sweet. It is mainly used for drinking and has been a practice of coping mechanism to store water.

The current conflict has resulted in damage to the main power station between Gadamis and Ruwais towns, electricity towers, poles and connecting wires. The GMMR pipe line feeding the town has also been cut off by GOL forces. Maintenance and repair of the electricity generators in the valley is not possible as they are still in range of shelling.

The mission observed water provided by tankers to the households and institutions including the hospital. About 3-4 tankers are transporting the water from a distance of about 30 kilometres. The water distributed is not enough per capita as reported according to the head of the household interviewed. A tankering operation is managed by the Local Council, with the

hospital prioritised and receiving about 30,000 litres daily. Bottled water is distributed free of charge to the households through the LRC.

Powdered baby milk was seen in the LRC pharmacy in Nalut. It is distributed free of charge, together with diapers, to families. The director of the hospital explained that breastfeeding promotion needs time, as the diet for children used by mothers in recent years was composed mainly of pasta and cereals.

A community-based alternative education system is coordinated by the Local Council. 70 students (grades 1 to 3) have completed their exams, while 160 will sit their exams on 2 July.

5d. Jadu

Jadu has electrical power but it is infrequent. Water in Jadu is sufficient and supplies are provided from boreholes in Shakshouk according to local sources.

5e. Zintan

Water supply was reported as being sufficient with sources for Zintan coming from 5-6 boreholes about 35 kilometres from the town. However, the main field of wells was partially destroyed during the fighting and is currently being repaired. Currently the water is provided from a few wells 10 kilometres to the North which are meeting the requirements of the current inhabitants. Zintan is not connected to the GMMR. According to the Chair of the Local Council about 60 percent of the houses have connected water while about 40 percent get water through the tankering system. Houses have underground reservoirs and upper tanks. The system of water harvesting winter rains is practiced in Zintan also.

Electricity is provided from Shakshouk power station North West of Zintan. The town of Zintan is electrified. The mission evidenced a large amount of lights on. The street lights cannot be turned off as the foreign electrical workers who control the system have departed.

5.1 Further information/action required

- Psychosocial services required for traumatized people, as a result of the conflict and displacement.
- Record keeping under the Health Information System needs to be looked at to inform about trauma and injuries cases, including disaggregate data for age and sex to know about injuries of those below 18 years old and the cause.
- Review of quantities of vaccines available and in the pipeline provided to the main hospitals. This includes vaccines needed in small towns serviced by the main centres.
- A market survey of the marketplace and livelihoods (civil servants, trade, animals and some farming, light industry) and the availability of fresh food.
- A further analysis of coping strategies and asset stripping.
- WASH technical data on sources in the valley, pumping stations and power.
- UNHCR/WFP to set up feeding stations at the Dehiba crossing point during Ramadan to cater for crossing families breaking fast at the end of the day.

6. Risks

7. What are the risks to which the population is exposed?

8. Which groups (IDPs, residents) are vulnerable to these risks?

The main risk continues to be rocket attacks from the valley floor, in particular in Wazin, Nalut and until recently Zintan. In addition the mission evidenced remnants of war and UXOs in all the locations visited.

A number of Opposition force members interviewed indicate that in Nalut each household was registered and provided with a weapon. The minimum age of combatants is eighteen. However, they reported that adolescents under the age of eighteen can still support with other non-combat support activities eg. off-loading assistance, cleaning warehouses, etc.

On 21 June, Human Rights Watch (HRW) reported that more than 150 antipersonnel landmines were found and removed about 10 miles north of Zintan. The mines were reportedly discovered on or around 1 June by Opposition forces.

In a number of semi-structured interviews 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.

The mission noted signs promoting unity and avoid conflict between cities and against anti-tribal and anti-ethnic sentiments. It was explained that this was to counter attempts to divide the Arabs and the Amazigh.

The Local Council explained that people from Zintan are not allowed to move into areas recently captured by the Opposition. They are protecting the houses of pro-Government families who have fled. Some families of the GOL armed forces have reportedly stayed behind in Mashashya and Rayayna. These are widely known as pro-Government towns. The Zintan Local Council confirmed that no violations of family members have occurred. This is an issue to be further monitored and explored.

6.1 Further information/action required

- Comprehensive mapping of areas with UXOs and landmines.
- Mine education.
- Further assessment on psychosocial effects of the conflict is required to provide specialized counseling services to the affected population.

7. Projected Trends

9. Forecast: How is the situation likely to evolve? What subsequent needs are expected?

10. Scenario: What is the political context and how is it likely to evolve?

The situation in Wazin appears to be improving with movement of frontlines away from the town. Infrequent rocket attacks do continue, but further down the valley.

Officials in Nalut indicated to the mission that if electricity and running water supply are not restored by Ramadan, many of the remaining population will flee to Tunisia.

Due to the limited time in Jadu no projection of future trends could be determined.

Officials in Zintan indicated that the lack of fighting, the return of electricity and running water supply will result in upwards of 95 percent of the population returning for Ramadan.

7.1 Further information/action required

- Scenarios developed as part of Libya contingency planning exercise currently underway.

8. National authorities response capacity

11. How have national / sub-national private sector, non-governmental and civil society capacities been affected?

12. What are the initial interventions from the national and/or local authorities to respond to the emergency?

13. What is the coping capacity of the local affected communities and what are their initial interventions?

Local Councils have been set up in all Opposition controlled areas and were evidenced by the mission and have a clear coordination function at a village, town and city level. The Libyan Red Crescent is active in Nalut, but has no presence in Zintan or Jadu. Boys Scouts are available in the three towns. Local NGOs include Wafa, Tawasul and the Sons of Libya. No local governance structures were met or seen in Wazin.

The hospital in Nalut is the regional referral facility and has received war wounded from different parts of the mountains. It continues to be supported by a number of INGOs and Libyan diaspora groups. International, staff including doctors and nurses, are currently working and accommodated at the Hospital.

The polyclinic in Jadu is functioning and has been upgraded to include operating theatres. Libyan diaspora groups and an INGO are supporting the facility with medical supplies and surgical staff. The hospital in Zintan has very few patients, most are war wounded. There is some concern that women patients in Zintan hospital have been moved to a separate ward which is underequipped to make way for the number of war-wounded. The hospital has electricity.

Nalut, Jadu and Zintan have standardised well designed and equipped warehouses that belonged to the "Price Stabilization Fund of Basic Commodities"- (Public Distribution System-PDS). They are physically intact and each store is either 500MT or 1000MT capacity. Some of the warehouses have cold chain, but these are not currently being used as a result of rationalisation or lack of power. Yafran, now under control of the Opposition, has been identified as a potential new hub to supply the town itself and the surrounding areas, as in the cases of Nalut, Jadu and Zintan.

Better coordination and communication between locations would assist in ensuring that urgently needed items are delivered and distributed according to needs rather than just according to the plan of the donor organization.

The warehouse staff in all three locations mainly composed of some professional staff from the previous PDS and motivated, but untrained, volunteers. The distribution system is functional but requires structural support like capacity building and equipment such as generators,

computers and laptops, internet connection and prepaid satellite phones to ensure proper and timely reporting and increased communication between hubs.

The LRC and the Local Committees have handled and distributed food delivered over the last three weeks by trucking associations engaged by WFP. Delivery arrangements occur through the three main hubs. Local Committees, with the assistance of the Scouts and the NGO Sons of Libya, are ensuring secondary transport for final distribution in the villages from those warehouses.

Nalut Local Council reported that they bring in vegetable and fruit supplies purchased with common funds once a week and distributing these items to the local populace.

The NFI warehouse in Nalut contained a mixture of tents, hygiene items, medical equipment and medicines. This is run by LRC who are receiving large numbers of NFIs of all descriptions, including out of date drugs and unusable medical equipment. There is a need for assertive efforts to prevent further “dumping” and an inventory to determine actual needs.

8.1 Further information/action required

- Mapping Who Does What Where
- Mapping local governance structures.
- Identifying markets.
- Items in different warehouses and distribution processes.
- Detail on other NGO warehouses.
- Cold storage facilities – medical supplies.
- Identify warehouse needs for equipment.
- Identifying needs for capacity building and training.

9. In-Country International Response Capacity

14. Has the international response capacity been affected?

15. Which agencies/organizations are located in the area?

16. What have they been doing and what are they likely to do in response to the situation?

INGOs with staff based in the Nafusa Mountains include; Medecins sans Frontieres (MSF) Switzerland, International Medical Corps (IMC), Merlin, Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Islamic Relief World Wide. Other NGOs providing assistance include the Qatar Red Crescent, UAE Red Crescent, WAFA, International Relief and Development (IRD), Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA), IGO Aid, and Hilfswerk Austria International. Assistance provided in the Nafusa Mountains to date has predominantly been in the health sector, especially the treatment of war wounded and food delivered through Libyan NGOs.

Stocks of wheat flour sent from Tripoli pre-crisis were observed by the mission in Nalut, Jadu and Zintan. Local Councils believe that there is no urgent need for wheat flour in the visited areas. There are pre-conflict stocks in the three visited warehouses plus WFP delivered quantities that have already been distributed. Most bakeries are not working and the remaining families do not bake bread at home on a regular basis. With this consumption level, the stocks of wheat flour are estimated to be sufficient until the end of the August in some areas and up to the end of the year in other areas. The expiration date for the stocks in Nalut is November 2011. If the consumption level increases, which is likely to be the case, this estimation will be revisited and WFP stocks of wheat flour in Tunisia can be considered as prepositioned stocks.

WFP stocks can be moved to the area however the re-allocation of quantities between the different areas is to be reconsidered as the previous system of direct supply from Tripoli is not functioning anymore. WFP is working with the community representatives present in Tunisia who are leading this process of transition.

The food dispatched by WFP from the Zarzis-free-zone in Tunisia at the end of May and the end of June (546Mt of flour, oil, pasta and High Energy Biscuits) has already been distributed to most of the communities in the surrounding areas as per the plan presented by the local committees. This represents 106,000 beneficiaries. However, at the time of the mission two communities in Jadu were not yet been able to receive their assigned quantities due to the security situation.

The Scouts are collecting information and a detailed distribution report will be received by WFP soon.

UNHCR has sent non-food supply shipments through LRC. On 3 May a shipment of 35 kitchen sets, 150 blankets and 250 collapsible jerry cans through the Nalut LRC. On 4 June UNHCR sent a shipment through the LRC using 5 trucks to deliver tents, kitchen sets, jerry cans, mattresses, blankets and hygiene kits.

In early June Taaoun, a Tunisian NGO, delivered fresh food to Nalut warehouse for distribution to several areas in the Nafusa Mountains, including Ruhibat. During the same period, Libyan diaspora groups delivered fuel, dry food items and non-food items.

Further information/action required

- Mapping Who Does What Where
- Contact LRC and locals about who they receiving assistance from.
- Border monitoring of agencies, staff and aid crossing from Tunisia and its destination.

10. Humanitarian Access

17. What are the logistic considerations in terms of effects of the emergency and options for response?

18. What is the security consideration?

19. Are civil-military relations a feature of the context?

A number of key logistical hurdles continue to impede the smooth and effective operation of humanitarian access into the Nafusa Mountains. The first is the need to clear Tunisian customs with multi entry visas and to handover vehicles registered in the passport of individuals. The mission experienced extensive delays departing and entering Tunisia, up to three hours. This had a direct impact on the time available to assess conditions on the ground, before returning to the Tunisia base by nightfall.

The distances involved in accessing towns in Mountains seriously impede the ability to gather data and carry out valid evidence-based assessments. Currently Tataouine is the closest town cleared for accommodation requiring a two hour drive to the border. In future missions should enter for extended periods of time and stay overnight in towns inside the Mountains. Consideration should be given to UN accommodation closer to the border in Ramada or Dehiba.

Lack of transportation organized as commercial entities in Libya has hindered logistics capacity in the Nafusa Mountains, as Tunisian companies are not permitted to cross the border through the Dehiba crossing points. They are, however, able to cross further north at Rasajdir.

Communications are a serious problem, particularly communications across the mountains.

Given the on-going risks associated with the conflict security staffing is critical. Both agencies and UNDSS need to have more staff allocated to supporting assessment missions into the Nafusa Mountains on an on-going basis. Funding for vehicles, insurance, fuel and maintenance also need to be covered.

Civil-military relations continue to be critical to humanitarian access. Deconfliction and negotiation continues to be a requirement with GOL forces, Opposition forces and NATO. Further work is required to identify regular contacts and map local structures.

10.1 Further information/action required

- Identify MOSS compliant UN accommodation closer to border.
- Need for a Telecommunications assessment in Tataouine, Ramada, Dehiba and across the Nafusa Mountain range.
- Carry out further extensive assessment missions.
- Carry out assessment missions from Zintan to Yafran.
- Open a fourth humanitarian access hub in the Yafran warehouses.

11. Coverage Gaps analysis

20. What proportion of the affected population is being reached by humanitarian interventions?

21. To what extent are there needs addressed?

Few of the on-going needs of the small remaining civilian population of Wazin are being met, as no institutions are able to access the area on a regular basis.

According to Local Councils all the remaining population of Nalut, Jadu and Zintan have access to humanitarian assistance. However, the supplies are unpredictable and families reported anxiety about their current and future food security situation.

Information collected from people and groups from Yafran present in Tataouine and Zintan indicated a need to dispatch food assistance to Yafran directly as people have started returning to their towns and surrounding areas.

11.1 Further information/action required

- Needs assessment of distribution networks, hubs and household analysis still required.
- Needs assessment in other towns across the Nafussa Mountains between Wazin and Zintan and beyond.

12. HCT Strategic Humanitarian Priorities

22. Priority sectors for intervention

23. Key issues (protection, environment, gender, etc..)

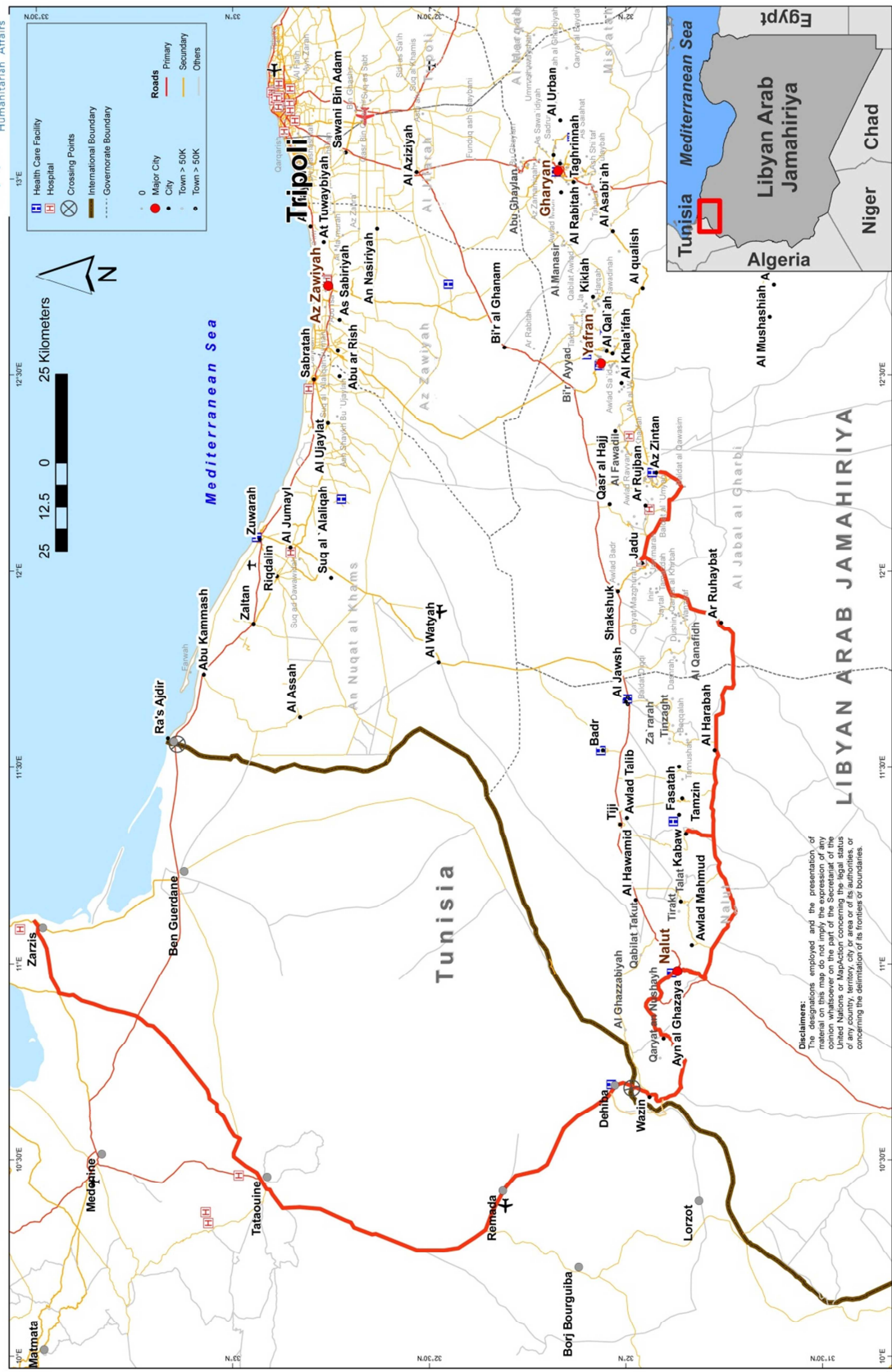
Currently food, water, health and protection are key priority areas for interventions in all towns in the Nafusa Mountains to varying degrees. Emerging areas of concern include telecommunications, capacity building, cold chain and health administration, IHL and humanitarian principles and protection training and in the longer term rule of law training.

Primary Recommendations

- 1. A full needs assessment from Wazin to Yafran should be undertaken, including all the smaller villages across the mountain plain.**
- 2. Assessment should be facilitated by longer missions with overnight stay.**
- 3. A fourth humanitarian hub should be open on Yafran.**
- 4. Permission should be sought for a pre-base from Ramada or Dehiba and a Security Risk Assessment undertaken.**
- 5. Further extension of assessment should be pre-empted by a security (only) mission, including the telecommunications cluster. This should cover from Wazin to Yafran, and beyond if possible.**

LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

MAP 302A



Disclaimers:
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