International Medical Corps was the first international humanitarian organization to arrive in Libya following the outbreak of war in early 2011.

Over the past decade, we have focused on providing medical relief and gained significant in-country expertise and widespread programmatic reach by supporting conflict-affected populations. Today, as the country continues to face economic and political instability, International Medical Corps continues to support the most vulnerable populations and strengthen the national health system in Libya.
Shortly after the Libyan civil war began in 2011, International Medical Corps deployed teams to provide countrywide emergency medical services, train health workers and deliver vital medicines and supplies. Starting in the country’s east, we built makeshift health facilities to provide critical care to conflict-affected populations and moved with the front lines westward until the fighting dissipated.

As the situation progressed, we transitioned from emergency activities to programs that fostered recovery and self-reliance. International Medical Corps supported the physical rehabilitation of health clinics and invested heavily in gender-based violence (GBV) protection activities—culminating in the first women’s march in the country’s capital. However, these popular programs were halted following a new wave of violence in the summer of 2014.

International Medical Corps’ focus shifted again in light of these new dynamics—this time targeting internally displaced persons (IDPs) and the growing waves of migrants traversing the country on their way to Europe. We have devised effective and efficient solutions for complex challenges in support of the most vulnerable populations deprived of access to basic healthcare. We provide medical aid to vulnerable populations in urgent need of care while providing a broader range of activities that benefits the wider Libyan and non-Libyan populations.

In 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we focused on our partnership with the Ministry of Health and the National Center for Disease Control by donating personal protective equipment (PPE) and providing in-person and remote training on COVID-19 prevention and response.

WHERE WE WORK

AJDABIYA  BENGHAZI  BRAKASH SHATI  BREGA  GARABOULI  JANZOUR  MISRATA  NALUT  SABHA  TAWERGHA  TRIPOLI  ZINTAN  ZLITEN

We are the only international humanitarian organization that has worked uninterrupted in Libya since the outbreak of the civil war in 2011, and are among the few organizations that have expatriate personnel fully based in Libya.
HEALTHCARE SUPPORT

International Medical Corps operates 11 mobile medical units (MMUs) that serve Libyans and non-Libyans in Benghazi, Misrata, Sabha and Tripoli. Some of these MMUs are supported by community health workers (CHWs) who raise awareness among migrant and refugee communities about common health problems to promote psychosocial well-being and prevent outbreaks of disease.

International Medical Corps is focused on strengthening the national healthcare system through our long-term partnership with the Ministry of Health. This partnership includes training healthcare workers, providing medications, medical equipment and rehabilitating healthcare facilities.

MENTAL HEALTH

International Medical Corps has a mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) specialist who provides mental health training for medical personnel in Libya. This specialist helps medical doctors navigate the identification, management and referral of priority mental health conditions in line with World Health Organization guidelines. We also employ a team of psychiatrists and psychosocial counselors, who are managed by our MHPSS specialist. They provide specialized services to patients identified by medical doctors, and refer severe cases to the national psychiatric hospital.

We are the co-chair of the MHPSS technical working group, which operates across sectors to ensure continued collaboration between governmental actors, INGOs and local NGOs, providing MHPSS services throughout Libya.

PROTECTION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)

International Medical Corps has been expanding its capacity in GBV prevention and response in Libya. With the support of our in-country GBV specialist, International Medical Corps’ Libya staff have been trained on the basics of protection for women and children, GBV in emergencies and the case management of rape. In coordination with UNFPA, our GBV team also builds the capacity of local organizations in Tripoli and Sabha, to ensure long-term sustainability of GBV services. We are also the co-chair of the GBV sub-sector working group, which ensures coordination among GBV actors working in Libya.

In one of the IDP settlements in Tripoli, International Medical Corps has created a women and girls’ safe space (WGSS), tailored to their needs and context, where women and girls can feel physically and emotionally secure. Programming in the WGSS includes life-skills courses, as well as psychosocial support and medical treatment for those seeking care.
A pre-eminent first responder since 1984, International Medical Corps delivers emergency medical and related services to those affected by conflict, disaster and disease, no matter where they are, no matter what the conditions. We also train people in their communities, providing them with the skills they need to recover, chart their own path to self-reliance and become effective first responders themselves.