



Press Release

Six newly renovated health facilities in Libya to offer vital services to local communities

Tripoli, 29 November 2021

Three priority health facilities in Ghat District (Ghat Health Center, Awainat Health Facility and Tahala Health Facility) and three in the Zawyia region (Zawyia Central: Abu Sorrah Village Hospital; Zawyia West: Al Harsha Health Centre; Zawyia South: Bir al Ghanam Village Hospital) underwent much needed rehabilitation, with support by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and funding from the European Union through the programme “Baladiyati” (“My municipality”).

In partnership with International Non-Governmental Organisations Helpcode and Organisation of Development Pioneers (ODP), the six health facilities were substantially renovated to improve infrastructure, water and electricity systems, and received modern medical equipment for better health services. In addition, 331 front-line health service professionals participated in trainings to strengthen their skills and *know-how* on healthcare delivery.

The renovations, equipment and training went hand in hand with a public campaign to increase local communities’ awareness and information on access to health services. Through three community events held in Ghat, Awainat and Zawiya, 82 Community Leaders received guidance on how to spread crucial health messages, including vital information on COVID-19 prevention and control. Moreover, a set of audio-visuals, thematic leaflets and visual assets were disseminated throughout the campaign.

“Quality health care services and access to accurate information are more important than ever as we continue to face a global pandemic. The European Union is supporting municipalities in updating hospitals, providing them with state-of-the-art medical equipment and offering training on prevention and treatment of the coronavirus,” said the Ambassador of the European Union to Libya, H.E. José Antonio Sabadell. “We have recently expanded the Baladiyati programme to be able to reach more municipalities in the whole country.”

“The six health facilities where the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation - AICS intervened were facing serious obstacles to quality healthcare provision, due to inadequate infrastructure, lack of medical supplies and limited *know-how*,” stated the AICS Head of Regional Office, Mr. Andrea Senatori. “The European Union’s support has enabled AICS to foster primary health services where these are most needed, making it possible for thousands of patients to be assisted with responsiveness, improved medical tools and specialised knowledge.”

Marika Macco, Helpcode Country Representative for Libya, commented: “The project success goes beyond the provision of important rehabilitation works and medical equipment. It also allowed for the reopening of health units that had been unavailable for long time, such as the maternity unit at the Ghat Hospital, that is now running at full capacity and offering crucial health services. Through increasing public awareness and information on access to healthcare, and quality training to medical staff and nurses, a better health system delivery has been achieved even in the most remote areas.”



The 22 million Euro contribution by the EU Trust Fund for Africa funded AICS's work in 27 municipalities across Libya since October 2018, with the aim to improve people's access to quality public services through over 100 interventions in sectors such as health, education, and water and sanitation.

Link to photo-materials: <https://3c5.com/LmfND>

About the programme Baladiyati - Phase 1

The EU's Baladiyati "Recovery, Stability and Socio-economic Development Programme" (50 million euros) is the largest programme ever financed by the European Union in direct support of Libyan municipalities and of some of the most vulnerable communities in the country. It currently works with 27 municipalities across Libya with the aim to improve people's access to quality public services, such as education, health, water and sanitation. The programme also aims at improving living conditions and building resilience among vulnerable populations, including host communities and migrants, refugees, returnees and internally displaced people (IDPs). The "Recovery, Stability and Socio-economic Development in Libya" programme is financed by the European Union through the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF) and is implemented by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation - AICS, UNDP and UNICEF.

For more information:

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