



Rekindling the dream of a displaced woman in Um-Alaraneb (Libya)

"I'm from Tebu tribe and in search of a life away from violence, insecurity and poverty. I moved with my family to Um-Alaranib because we had been told that it's a quiet village with available and affordable housing and education. I am a mother of five children—three daughters and two sons. I got married when I was 19. When I found out that I was pregnant for the first time, I was very happy, but now, being a mother of five children is completely different because it's challenging to grant them a good life", says Asma*, a 29-year-old lady who was born and raised in Sabha and then displaced with her family to Um-Alaranib.

Internal displaced family facing challenges

The story of Asma's family is one of the many untold stories of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Libya. According to IOM-DTM, 143,000 people are still displaced in Libya despite the cessation of hostilities and the general improvement of the security situation. This represents a decrease of thirty-two percent compared to the previous report (DTM round May–June 2021), but it indicates that while the overall humanitarian situation has improved, Libya remains in the post-crisis stage of transition and recovery.

Mobile Health units providing much needed support

"I first heard about UNFPA's mobile health units through a community health worker. I was told that a clinic next to us has a good doctor who gives advice and solves health problems because I was really stressed out, with poor concentration and fatigue all the time. I wanted to study and work, to have a life and future like the rest of the women," recalls Asma.

Asma went to Dr. Suha, in UNFPA's mobile health unit, who approached her holistically and diagnosed her with depression. Dr. Suha focused on the circumstances that led to Asma's condition, counselled her on how she can control her pregnancies and prescribed birth control pills. She gave her a family planning booklet as well. It is worth mentioning that Dr. Suha gives awareness and community health services to about 40 cases per week and has provided 320 services until now.

After getting better, Asma reenrolled again to finish the last term in a nursery institution: she graduated last September and began her training in a clinic.

A dream fulfilled

"Today I work as a medical assistant in a clinic, and I feel that I can give back something to the society and that I am contributing to the wellbeing of my family and of the community. Thanks to the support of



UNFPA mobile health units and of community health workers, many migrants, IDPs and vulnerable women like me are living healthier and enjoy better lives with their families”, says Asma with a smile on her face.

Italy’s support is yielding positive results

With the generous support of the **Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)**, **UNFPA** and its **partner Migrace** are currently implementing a project on sexual and reproductive health through mobile medical teams and community health workers in the South of Libya, specifically in Ghat, Zawilah, Um Alaraneb and Tmassah.

To ensure the sexual and reproductive health (SRH) for migrants, IDPS and local communities, the project is providing essential reproductive and mental health services along with raising awareness activities . People are provided with accurate information about safe, effective, economical, and acceptable method of contraception and with emergency obstetric and new born care services. At the same time access to qualified medical professionals and services for women is ensured in order to enable them to have a healthy pregnancy.

Since September 2022, with the support of AICS, **18,488** people, including **11,005** women, **871** migrants, and **674** IDPs have been provided essential Sexual and Reproductive Health services through mobile medical teams and community health workers deployed throughout selected centers in the South of Libya.

* Name is changed for safeguarding privacy of the beneficiary