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Recovery, Stability and Socio-economic development  
in Libya - Italian Cooperation Component  
T05-EUTF-NOA-LY-05-01-01 (T05.437)  
CUP: H99F18001050006



## **Recovery, Stability and Socio-economic Development in Libya** ***Baladiyati* Programme**

Italian Cooperation Component  
T05-EUTF-NOA-LY-05-01-01 (T05.437)

### **ANNUAL REPORT YEAR 3**

1 October 2020 – 30 September 2021



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## 1. Institutional set-up and overall project organisation

The 'Recovery, Stability and Socio-economic Development in Libya (RSSD) - Baladiyati' programme is funded by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa – North Africa Window. The EUR 50-million Phase 1 Action assigned to AICS a budget of EUR 22 million, [REDACTED] based on separate delegation agreements signed between each implementing agency and the EU.

The Action aims to enhance access to basic social services and strengthen local capacity in 27<sup>1</sup> conflict and displacement affected municipalities selected for their location along the main migratory routes. It is designed with the objective of improving living conditions and building resilience among vulnerable populations, including migrants, refugees, internally displaced people (IDPs), returnees, and host communities.

AICS signed a delegation agreement with the EU on 14 September 2018, with a 36-month duration. An internal decree on 21 December 2018 and the following decree No. 19 of 26 January 2021 transferred the activity management responsibility from the Director of AICS Rome to the AICS Regional Representative for Tunisia, Libya, Morocco and Algeria.

AICS requested the EU to grant a 9-month No-Cost Extension from October 2021 to June 2022 [REDACTED]. The related Addendum entered into force on 1 October 2021.

Since the programme inception, AICS has played a leading role in the establishment and consolidation of the Action governance architecture - with the participation of the EU Delegation, [REDACTED], AICS and the Italian Embassy - consisting of a Steering Committee, Technical Committee and Technical Secretariat.

Cooperation with the Libyan authorities at both the central and local levels continued to be crucial for the successful completion of the third year's workplan. To this end, AICS coordinated with the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) as the key national counterpart, as well as the Presidential Council (PC). The third year of the programme also capitalised on close collaboration with municipality-level representatives, namely mayors, councillors, technical officials and staff.

Since March 2020, AICS engaged in the Baladiyati Phase 2 formulation, negotiations, contracting and inception, [REDACTED]. The 36-month Phase 2 began on 10 June 2021.

The AICS Programme Management Unit (PMU) operates from two offices, one in Tripoli and one in Tunis, both equipped and staffed to full capacity. Coordination between the Tripoli and Tunis offices has been consolidated through regular audio and video conferences, Tunis PMU staff missions to Tripoli, and frequent field visits by the PMU national staff - despite the volatile situation in Libya.

The PMU was established and staffed through the recruitment of seven Tunis-based staff and five Tripoli-based national staff. Since June 2021, the Team Leader has been posted in Tripoli. The Vacancy Announcement for a Senior Programme Officer/Deputy Team Leader to coordinate the Tunis Office team was published on 23 July and the selected candidate is expected to join the PMU in November.

<sup>1</sup> The initial number of 24 municipalities grew to 27 as some municipalities spit up during the local elections in 2019-2020.



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The position is funded under Baladiyati Phase 2. Short-term local consultants in the civil engineering sector have also been hired throughout this reporting period to support technical consultations at the municipal level.

## 2. Activities and results achieved

In the last twelve months of the programme (01 October 2020- 30 September 2021), the activities and achieved results include:

### a) Technical coordination and secretariat functions

AICS continued to perform its role in technical coordination and secretariat functions within the programme architecture and maintained regular communication with the EU Delegation, UN partner agencies and Libyan counterparts. During the reporting period, AICS contributed to the consolidation of the programme governing architecture through supporting two Steering Committee meetings and five Technical Committee meetings, in addition to several technical and operational meetings involving the institutional counterparts at the central and local levels.

### b) Calls for Proposals to INGOs (CfP): projects implementation

Numerous interventions on the ground were carried out during the third year of the programme, through nine projects assigned to the selected INGOs, targeting 25 municipalities across Libya. Three projects out of nine were completed in the reporting period, as follows:

- CALL 1 – LOT 1 (IMC/Cesvi): completed on 31 March 2021
- CALL 2 – LOT 1 (CEFA/FADV): completed on 16 May 2021
- CALL 2 – LOT 2 (IRC/HI): completed on 31 June 2021

The PMU accurately monitored INGO grant activities and reviewed and approved Interim reports, Quarterly Information Notes and Monthly Updates. Major results were achieved in the third year of the programme. AICS approved nine No-Cost Extension requests by the INGO, in order to allow for the completion of the activities, as delays occurred due to the volatility of the Libyan context. The INGO requests were submitted within their contract implementation period (ending on 31 Aug. 2021) and AICS approved those requests upon receiving the EU clearance of the Programme NCE from 01 Oct. 2021 to 30 June 2022.

(For further details, refer to section 4. Activities)

### c) Trust building and collaboration with Libyan authorities at both the central and local levels

AICS has successfully built trust with Libyan authorities at the local and national levels; this has been achieved through several meetings and field visits, consistent messaging, and communication around Baladiyati and AICS' interventions.

### d) Effective communications

During the reporting period, the communication activities have been running at full capacity. A steady growth has been recorded in both Facebook and Twitter programme-dedicated pages as well as in AICS-specific online channels (Facebook in particular). Visibility and outreach have been amplified through the launch of the human-interest stories' blog, the organisation of a second training workshop on strategic communications for Libyan municipalities and the rollout of the brand identity and multimedia projects.

### e) Preparation of Phase II

During the reporting period, AICS was engaged both in the preparatory activities for the finalisation of the contribution agreement, signed on 9 June 2021, and in the programming and inception of the programme activities of Baladiyati Phase 2.



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## 2.1 Main findings and outcomes from field visits and consultations

The PMU invested substantively in building relationships with central and local authorities; several meetings were held with mayors and members of the municipality councils in the reporting period, at the presence of the INGO focal points when necessary. The Tripoli-based team also visited target municipalities and participated to handover ceremonies organized by the INGOs following completion of specific interventions. The PMU Tripoli-based team continues to play a key role in maintaining close engagement and regular communications between the local authorities and AICS, to guarantee programme accountability and smooth implementation of the INGO activities – with a conflict-sensitive lens.

## 3. Objectives and results to be achieved

Within the ‘specific objectives and results’ set in the Action Document (T05-EUTF-NOA-LY-05), the AICS component aligns with the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the EU Trust Fund – North Africa window, and contributes to the following objectives:

- Foster a more inclusive social and economic environment and stability in the region (Strategic Objective 4)
- Stability and recovery of local communities, including migrant populations on the move and returnees, is progressively enhanced, most notably in conflict or post-conflict areas (Specific Objective VII)
- Strengthen institutional capacity building (Immediate Outcomes 3, 4 and 5) to improve both quantity and quality of services delivered to users of enhanced facilities
- Awareness raising (Immediate Outcome 8)

The outputs of this specific AICS component are guided by the Description of the Action and Logframe:

- Professional competences and/or awareness of staff working for the supported institution(s)/entities increased [EU TF IO.3]

Trainings for the improved management and operation of target facilities are provided at the field-level by the INGOs selected through CfPs and complemented by AICS capacity development interventions at a macro level [REDACTED]. Given the security and COVID-19 related challenges to broad training programmes, the bulk of the technical training is provided by the INGOs at the local level. Moreover, AICS is consolidating the network with local counterparts at the municipality level to facilitate and monitor the interventions.

- Equipment of the supported institution(s)/entities enhanced [EU TF IO.4] and general infrastructure enhanced [EU TF IO.5]

Through technical consultations with the Libyan authorities, the EU, [REDACTED], AICS compiled a list of works, equipment and supplies required across facilities and assigned a sub-set under AICS’ implementation responsibility. AICS is managing the grant procedures for the INGOs who are responsible for the rehabilitation of infrastructure and the equipment provision.

- Awareness/sensitivity of general public regarding all aspects of migration enhanced [EU TF IO.8]





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This output is being pursued through the development of a public awareness campaign, conflict-sensitive messaging and coordinated and consistent communication and visibility actions with the synergic participation of all stakeholders. The INGOs selected through the CfP are undertaking the development and implementation of local level awareness activities aiming at increasing community engagement which will encourage an uptake in basic services facilities' utilisation and improve access to specialized services for the most vulnerable community members (including migrants, refugees, IDPs, returnees and host communities), under the AICS guidance [REDACTED].

#### 4. Activities

This section provides an overview of the main activities carried out by AICS during the reporting period and indicates those planned for the remaining nine months of the programme. Specific activities are expanded in the following paragraphs, presented in line with the budget structure to ensure consistency between narrative and financial reporting. Annex II Logframe shows progress against targets.

##### 4.1 Support community services through grant contracts to INGOs - *budget heading 1*

During the reporting period, AICS continued to play its role in coordinating and monitoring the implementation process of the ongoing interventions in the 25 Libyan municipalities carried out by the international NGOs selected through three Calls for Proposals. In so doing, AICS closely complied with the deliberations of the Technical and Steering Committee.

This component represents the main goal - and absorbs approximately 77% of the budget – of the entire AICS component. As such, it is closely monitored. AICS provides monitoring information to the complex monitoring system, including the EU Third-Party Monitoring partners Altai (monthly activity planner and field visits) and Global Initiative. Moreover, AICS provides ICMPD with Quarterly Information Notes and related Data Collection Tool updates. All grant beneficiaries regularly submit to AICS Monthly Updates and Quarterly Information Notes, providing tools for close monitoring along with the AICS' own Third-Party Monitoring service provider Voluntas and PMU field visits. Finally, all grant beneficiaries provide Monthly Updates [REDACTED].

The following sections provide a summary of the ongoing activities under Component I with a focus on those completed within the reporting period.

##### *Call for Proposals n.1*

- Geographical coverage: Municipalities of Janzur, Zuwara, Zawyia<sup>2</sup>, Ghat/Tahala
- Sector of intervention: Primary Health Care
- Total budget: EUR 3.9 million

**Lot 1. Janzour and Zuwara:** On 13 November 2019, the grant contract was awarded to the INGO International Medical Corps (IMC) Croatia, operating in partnership with CESVI. Implementation on the ground commenced on 14 November 2019 with an expected duration of 12 months and a total budget of EUR 2,240,000.

<sup>2</sup> In 2019, municipal elections led to the division of the municipality of Zawyia into three independent entities: Central, South and West.



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In the reporting period the INGO submitted four Quarterly Information Notes and 12 Monthly Updates.

In October 2020, IMC officially submitted a request for a 3.5 month no-cost extension, with activities ending in February 2021. The request was motivated by the need for completing the activities slowed down due to the measures adopted by the Libyan government to contain the pandemic (curfew, border closure, ban on gatherings, etc.), which added to the logistical difficulties (finding materials and medical equipment, customs clearance, etc.) and frequent power cuts. The request was timely approved by AICS and despite the operational difficulties, IMC started the distribution of medical materials and supplies at the Janzur Village Hospital and at the Al Marian Hospital in Zuwara and started the rehabilitation works of the Medical Warehouse in Zuwara, as well as the activities on awareness raising and inclusive access to basic health services (component implemented by CESVI). The Consortium carried out several training sessions on the right to inclusive health services for all (including migrants) in both Janzour Village Hospital and Zuwara Al Marain Hospital, reaching 300 health personnel (82M, 218F) including doctors, nurses, pharmacists, administration, and maintenance staff etc. The Consortium also reached 2,500 people (Libyans and mixed migrants) through awareness campaigns on renovated health facilities and available health services in the target areas, alongside the distribution of 2,500 Hygiene Kits to awareness sessions participants.

Despite the efforts by the INGO in speeding up the activities, the rehabilitation works at the Medical Warehouse in Zuwara were delayed, with a completion date foreseen by end of February 2021. To avoid any further delays in the completion of the works as well as in reporting, in January 2021 the INGO IMC requested to extend the project duration for an additional month (NCE no. 2 with end of activities by 31 March 2021) to ensure the finalization of rehabilitation works and to carry out the due handovers with the counterparts, including the organization of a final project event. AICS approved the no-cost extension request.

On 17 March, a closing ceremony was held in Zuwara for the rehabilitation works of the Medical Warehouse of Al Marain Hospital, the municipality referral hospital. Throughout the intervention, the priority was given to rehabilitation works of the warehouse, so as to make it fully equipped with the necessary tools and an automated inventory system that meets international standards.

The event was attended by the Mayor of Zuwara, the members of the Municipality and the Hospital managers and by the representatives of the IMC/CESVI Consortium, as well as representatives of the PMU. The ceremony has seen an active participation and a great appreciation of the results achieved, and it has been given visibility on the social channels of the Programme and AICS.

The consortium completed its activities on 31 March 2021 and submitted the final report on 12 July 2021. Following the submission of the report, AICS mandated KPMG to perform the due financial and control system audit.

Although the KPMG verification of the expenditures is needed to know the exact balance to be disbursed to the IMC-CESVI consortium, the financial report already submitted by the INGO states an unspent balance amounting to EUR 113,007.57 reported by the INGO at the end of the project activities. By contract, the due final balance amounts to EUR 448,000 but, because of the unspent balance of EUR 113,007.57 to be deducted, the final balance will not exceed EUR 334,992.43. The ongoing KPMG accounting verification will confirm the INGO eligible expenditures.

### **Lot 2, Zawya and Ghat/Tahala:**

Supports upgrades to village health centres located in the municipalities of Ghat/Tahala and Zawya. The Italian INGO Helpcode and its partner, the Libyan NGO Organization of Development Pioneers, are the grant contract beneficiaries. The activities officially started on 1 March 2020, with an expected duration of 18 months (ending August 2021) and a total budget of EUR 1,690,000.



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In the third year of the project Helpcode submitted four Quarterly Information Notes, 12 Monthly Updates and two interim reports. Despite the operational difficulties experienced by the consortium due to the complexity of the two project areas, field activities have progressed according to schedule. Capacity building initiatives for the staff of the medical centres in Ghat and Tahala and the health facilities in Zawya (six medical facilities) were carried out, as well as awareness raising campaigns for the respective populations of the two districts. Rehabilitation works have also started and been completed for the six targeted health facilities: Ghat Health Center, Awainat Health Facility, Tahala Health Facility in Ghat/Tahala area; Abu Sorrah village hospital (Zawya Central), Disable Rehabilitation Centre (Z. South), and Al Harsha Health Center (Z. West) in Zawya district.

A handover ceremony took place on 27 January 2021 in the presence of local authorities and the Mayor of Zawya West. Due visibility to the event was given through social channels of the programme and AICS Tunis.

On 7 January 2021, in compliance with its contractual obligations, Helpcode submitted an interim report covering the period from 1 March 2020 to 9 December 2020. As per the AICS Regional Office in Tunis request, the INGO subsequently resubmitted a revised report with additional documentation on 18 March 2021 - which was eventually accepted and approved by AICS.

An amendment to the contract was signed on 31 August following a request and approval for a no-cost extension of three additional months pushing forward the project end date to 30 November 2021. During the third year of the program, rehabilitation works were completed in three health facilities in the areas of intervention. The supply of medical materials and equipment will be completed in the next reporting period; as of 30 September 2021, the supply of equipment has been completed in three structures in the municipality of Ghat/Tahala and a partial delivery has already been made to three structures in the municipalities of Zawya Centre, South and West. In parallel, capacity building activities of medical staff (130 people benefited from the training modules for Ghat/Tahala and 129 for Zawya) and awareness raising campaigns on inclusive access to basic services are proceeding. By November 2021, the consortium will complete the ongoing activities and organise a project closing ceremony in Tripoli, an event to capitalise on the results of the initiative.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS N. 1		
Contract	05/RSSDLIBYA/T05.437/2019, Lot 1	05/RSSDLIBYA/T05.437/2019, Lot 2
ONG	IMC – CESVI	Helpcode - ODP
Municipalities	Janzur, Zuwara	Zawya (Centre, South, West), Ghat/Tahala
Implementation period	14/11/2019 – 31/03/2021	1/03/2020 – 30/11/2021 (NCE 3 months)
Budget (euro)	2,240,000	1,690,000
Sector	Health	Health

### *Call for Proposals n. 2*

- Geographical coverage: Municipalities of Zawya (Centre) and Misrata
- Field of intervention: Health
- Total budget: EUR 1.5 million

A second Cfp was launched on 29 August 2019 to implement health interventions in the municipalities of Zawya and Misrata, for a total allocation of EUR 1,490,000. Grant awarding was completed in early 2020.





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**Lot 1, Zawyia:** Contract awarded to the Italian NGO CEFA in partnership with the Italian NGO Fondazione Albero della Vita (FADV). Implementation started on 17 March 2020, for an expected duration of 14 months (ending May 2021) and a total budget of EUR 488,069.80.

In the reporting period CEFA submitted three Quarterly Information Notes and eight monthly updates.

On 28 October 2020, CEFA submitted a request for a budget reallocation during the last quarter of 2020, as throughout the year it was registered an increase in prices in the local market caused by the ongoing conflict and the logistical difficulties caused by the spreading of the COVID-19 virus. In addition, the results of the technical audit and the needs analysis of the target hospital, the Zawiya Teaching Hospital, led to the decision to concentrate the rehabilitation work on the paediatric ward, which required major structural work, while the medical equipment and materials would benefit both the gynaecological and paediatric wards. Despite the operational difficulties encountered in an area with numerous episodes of violence until March 2021, clashes between different armed groups that still destabilise the entire community, the increase of COVID-19 cases, tensions between the populations due to the socio-economic situation, and the continuous suspensions of the water and electricity supply, CEFA completed the rehabilitation works of the paediatric ward according to the workplan. The handover ceremony took place on 21 January 2021 with the participation of the relevant authorities and the Mayor of Zawya Centre. To the event was given good visibility through AICS Tunis Office's social-media channels and the Programme's dedicated pages.

With the provision of medical equipment and medicines to both the paediatric and gynaecology wards the INGO completed its activities on 16 May 2021. Training and capacity building activities for medical and paramedical staff of the above-mentioned departments (43 people trained in total) were also finalised, with some sessions carried out remotely in compliance with the provisions set by the Libyan authorities to counter the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, there were awareness-raising campaigns for the local population on COVID-19 prevention and inclusive access to basic services. Through awareness activities the consortium reached 19,633 people (3,530 people reached in-person - including Libyans and non-Libyan citizens, 16,133 people reached online). By November 2021, the consortium will have to send the final report and, following the appropriate administrative and accounting audits entrusted to KPMG, the final instalment will be released.

**Lot 2, Misrata:** Contract awarded to the INGO International Rescue Committee (IRC) in partnership with Humanity and Inclusion (HI), registered in Libya as Handicap International. Implementation started on 1 May 2020, for an expected project duration of 12 months (ending May 2021) and a total budget of EUR 1,000,000. The project implementation was extended with the approval of a NCE of two months, ending June 2021. In the reporting period IRC submitted three Quarterly Information Notes and ten monthly updates.

Despite operational difficulties, the consortium implemented the activities in line with the schedule and with the project objectives. Main achievements were the awareness-raising activities and numerous health education sessions on non-communicable diseases, COVID-19 prevention and control, personal hygiene, and access to basic medical services.

Due to the restrictions imposed to contain and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the procurement process of medical materials and equipment took longer than expected, as did the confirmation of technical specifications of medical equipment with local and international suppliers. There were significant gaps in availability and supply. To mitigate possible delays related to the delivery and customs clearance of the goods, the consortium requested to extend the project duration by two months, from beginning of May to end of June 2021, to complete the distribution and installation of the equipment in the health facilities and proceed with the necessary training of medical and paramedical staff. The amendment to the contract was signed on 21 April 2021.



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The activities were completed on 31 June. The consortium completed the delivery of COVID-19 medical equipment, medicines, and prevention materials to the eight health facilities targeted by the project. Training and capacity-building activities for medical and paramedical staff in the facilities were also finalised (243 people trained in total), as well as awareness-raising campaigns on inclusive access to health services, reaching 3,955 people (1,881M, 2,074F) including Libyans and mixed migrants. The majority of the beneficiaries came from Sudan, Niger, Syria and Morocco. Other nationalities included Libya, Ghana, Chad, Bangladesh, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Palestine, Tunisia, and Egypt. During the implementation period, HI conducted awareness-raising sessions reaching 125 people on the topics of emergency rehabilitation, psycho-social support and inclusion of persons with disabilities. Among them, 100 were health staff working in a total of 11 health facilities within the area of intervention, 20 were IDP or migrant community focal point (9 IDPs and 11 migrants), and 5 were community outreach volunteers (CoV) as part of IRC's activities.

The final report was submitted in September, there were no financial shortfalls, and it is currently being audited by KPMG. Once approved, the final tranche will be released in full.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS N. 2		
Contract	06/RSSDLIBYA/T05.437/2019, Lot 1	06/RSSDLIBYA/T05.437/2019, Lot 2
ONG	CEFA – FADV	IRC - HI
Municipalities	Zawyia center	Misrata
Implementation period	17/03/2020 – 16/05/2021	1/05/2020 – 31/06/2021 (2 months NCE)
Budget (euro)	488,069.80	1,000,000
Sector	Health	Health

### *Call for Proposals n. 3*

- Geographical coverage: Municipalities of Ajdabiya, Benghazi, Kufra / Ribyana , Al Bayda, Tobruk, Bani Walid, Khoms, Zintan, Misrata, Maya / Mamoura , Sabratha, Sorman, Brak Al Shati, Quatrum, Murzuk, Sebha and Showerif
- Field of Intervention: Health, Education, WASH
- Total budget: EUR 11.9 million

**Lot 1, Ajdabiya, Benghazi, Kufra/Ribyana:** Contract awarded to the INGO International Rescue Committee (IRC) in consortium with ACTED and Premiere Urgence International (PUI). Activities started on 1 September 2020, for a duration of 12 months and a budget of EUR 1,545,000.

During this period, IRC submitted four Quarterly Information Notes and 12 Monthly Updates. Despite the operational difficulties experienced by the consortium in three very complex areas of the country, field activities continued. The difficulties have slowed down the recruitment of dedicated human resources, the implementation of needs assessments and validation/approval of technical specifications by Libyan counterparts, and consequently the launch of tender procedures for supplies. The PMU carried out a series of kick-off meetings with Libyan municipalities and INGO partners to present the programme objectives, introduce the planned interventions and establish a first contact with AICS. These events were attended by the Italian Honorary Consul in coordination with the Italian Embassy in Tripoli, Libyan counterparts, and INGO partners. In February, the needs assessment at the designated structures was concluded and a final report was shared with AICS. At the same time, ACTED started the procedures for the purchase and supply of materials and equipment for rehabilitation works in Benghazi and Ajdabya. PUI did the same for its facilities in Kufra, Ribyana and Benghazi. The change of designated facilities in Kufra municipality, which was officially received by the municipality, is reported.



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The spread of COVID-19 virus affected the capacity building component, which started in April 2021. No critical issues emerged regarding relations and coordination between partners and Libyan counterparts. The consortium requested to extend the project duration by three months (until 30 November 2021) in order to complete all planned interventions. The amendment to the contract was signed on 31 August 2021.

As of 31 September 2021, the consortium completed maintenance and/or rehabilitation works in four health facilities under its responsibility, the total or partial provision of medical supplies in five facilities, and the professional training of 365 health workers and local authorities. In parallel, several awareness-raising campaigns and trainings on inclusive access to basic services and health education were launched in the relevant municipalities: 69 health staff were reached from target facilities and local authorities; 10,335 (4,031F, 6,304M) Libyans and non-Libyans were totally reached. IRC reported unexpected delays in the international shipment of some purchased medical equipment and its delivery, installation and testing at the target facilities in Kufra and Ribyana municipalities. The PMU has been pre-alerted with regard to a possible additional request for a no-cost extension of the grant, necessary for the conclusion of this intervention by the end of the project implementation period. At present, there are no significant criticalities in the relations and coordination between the partners and the Libyan counterparts.

**Lot 2, Al Bayda, Tobruk:** Contract awarded to the INGO International Rescue Committee (IRC) in partnership with ACTED and Premiere Urgence International (PUI). The project has a duration of 12 months, a total budget of EUR 1,505,000, and started on 1 September 2020. During the reporting period, IRC submitted four Quarterly Information Notes and 12 Monthly Updates.

At the beginning of the activities, the INGO reported difficulties that slowed down the completion of some preliminary activities, including the recruitment of dedicated human resources, the implementation of needs assessments, the validation/approval of technical specifications by the Libyan counterparts and consequently the start of the procurement and supply procedures.

The PMU carried out a series of kick-off meetings aiming to present the objectives of the programme, introduce the planned interventions and establish a first contact between AICS, the Libyan counterparts and the organisations implementing the interventions on the field. In these meetings participated the Libyan municipalities and the international NGOs involved, as well as the Italian Honorary Consul in coordination with the Italian Embassy in Tripoli.

In February 2021, the needs assessment in the designated structures was concluded and a final report was shared with AICS. In March 2021 ACTED started the procedures for the procurement and supply of equipment, and the procurement procedure for the rehabilitation works planned in Tobruk. PUI launched procurement procedures in January for the purchase of medical equipment and rehabilitation works for the health facilities in AlBayda. The spread of COVID-19 affected the capacity-building component, which started in April 2021.

In August the consortium requested to extend the project duration by three months (until 30 November 2021) in order to complete all the planned works. The amendment to the contract was signed on 31 August 2021. As of 31 September 2021, the consortium has completed maintenance and/or rehabilitation works and the total or partial provision of medical supplies in two health facilities; the professional training of 249 health workers and members of local cities, in both municipalities under its jurisdiction. In parallel, numerous awareness-raising campaigns on inclusive access to basic services and health education were conducted by the consortium: 4,404 Libyans and non-Libyans (1,743F, 2,661M) were reached in AlBayda; 69 health staff (58F, 11M) from Tobruk and 39 health staff (20F, 11M) from AlBayda were also reached through these awareness trainings. IRC reported unexpected delays in the international shipment of some medical equipment and its delivery, installation and testing at the target facilities located in AlBayda municipality. The PMU was also pre-alerted of this delay and of a possible further request for a non-cost extension of the grant by the Consortium, necessary to conclude this



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intervention by the end of the project implementation period. Currently, there are no critical issues with respect to relations and coordination between the partners and the Libyan counterparts.

**Lot 3, Bani Walid, Khoms, Misurata, Zintan:** Contract awarded to the INGO International Rescue Committee (IRC). The project has a duration of 12 months, a total budget of EUR 2,915,000 and started on 1 September 2020.

During the reporting period, IRC presented four Quarterly Information Notes and 12 Monthly Updates. At the beginning of the activities, the PMU organized and carried out a series of kick off meetings with Libyan municipalities and international NGOs involved, with the aim to present the objectives of the programme, introduce the planned interventions and establish a first contact between AICS, in coordination with the Italian Embassy in Tripoli, Libyan counterparts, and organizations implementing interventions on the field. IRC completed the preliminary activities, finalised the needs assessment related to the interventions in the municipalities of Misrata, Bani Walid and Khoms in the health and education sectors. The identification phase of the health facilities and schools to be addressed in each of the three municipalities was also completed, in agreement with the local authorities.

In February 2021, IRC started procurement procedures for the supply of medical equipment and rehabilitation works in the identified facilities. The water and health (WASH) interventions planned in the municipalities of Zintan and Bani Walid were limited to the supply of vehicles for waste and wastewater collection, however the technical specifications have been agreed upon with the respective authorities and IRC initiated the procurement procedure in March 2021. At the same time, IRC started capacity-building activities in the municipalities of Bani Walid and Khoms, based on the priorities and needs identified through the needs assessment, which are in line with the capacity building plan defined in February 2021. Due to the critical logistic and operational issues that emerged with the spread of COVID-19, IRC decided that the Training of Trainers would take place in Tripoli instead of Tunis.

The operational difficulties and consequent delays in implementation forced the INGO to request to extend the project duration by three months (until 30 November 2021) in order to complete all planned interventions. The amendment to the contract was signed on 31 August 2021.

As of 31 September 2021, maintenance works have been completed in 16 schools (4 in the municipality of Bani Walid and 12 in the municipality of Misurata), medical equipment has been partially distributed and 272 health workers have been trained in 10 health facilities (municipalities of Bani Walid and Khoms) and two vehicles for waste and wastewater management have been delivered (municipality of Bani Walid). At the same time, several awareness campaigns and trainings on inclusive access to basic services and health education have been launched by IRC in the municipalities: 19,644 Libyans and non-Libyans (7,640F, 12,004M) were reached across Bani Walid and Khoms municipalities (of the non-Libyan participants, most came from Chad, Syria, Sudan, Palestine, Egypt and Niger). Around 84 health staff from target health facilities and local authorities were also reached through awareness trainings. At present, there are no major problems in the relations and coordination between partners and Libyan counterparts.

**Lot 4, Maya/Mamoura, Sorman Sabratha:** Contract awarded to the INGO International Rescue Committee (IRC) in partnership with WEWORLD/GVC. The project has a duration of 15 months, a total budget of EUR 2,503,000, and started on 1 September 2020.

In the reporting period, IRC submitted four Quarterly Information Notes and 12 Monthly Updates. At the beginning of the activities, the PMU organised and implemented a series of kick-off meetings with Libyan municipalities and international NGOs involved, in order to present the Programme objectives, introduce the planned interventions and establish a first contact between AICS, in coordination with the Italian Embassy in Tripoli, Libyan counterparts and the organisations implementing interventions on the ground.





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The consortium completed its pre-commissioning activities and finalised the needs assessment for the interventions in the various municipalities in February 2021. The final report was shared with AICS in March 2021. In order to carry out the rehabilitation works of the health facilities and schools benefiting from the project, after approval of the Bills of Quantities (BoQ) by the relevant authorities, WW-GCV finalized the dossier for the procurement process and estimated the timeframe needed to complete the works. The consortium divided the local tender into three lots per geographical area, adopting the Conflict Sensitivity approach, in order to ensure more opportunities for potential bidders and allowing small and medium enterprises to submit their bids. As for the supply of medical equipment and facilities, the tender dossier was drawn up in separate lots. Both tenders were published in March 2021. The capacity-building plan has been defined and finalised. Some training sessions will be held in Tripoli in conjunction with the sessions conducted by IRC under Lot 3. In terms of collaboration with local counterparts, the consortium reported difficulties in coordination with the local authority and the management of the health facility in Mamoura, which led to the temporary interruption of preparatory activities for the capacity-building component. In order to facilitate communication and organization of the work between the parties, in March 2021 the PMU held a coordination meeting in the presence of the WW-GVC, the local authority of Mamoura and some representatives of the designated health facility. In the same month, WW-GVC and IRC participated in the kickoff meeting organised by the PMU with the newly elected municipal council of Sabratha. On this occasion, the consortium had the opportunity to present the objectives and progress of the project and to establish a first contact with the new local authority.

Due to the delays caused by these difficulties, the consortium requested to extend the project duration by three months (until 30 November 2021) in order to complete all the planned interventions. The amendment to the contract was signed on 31 August 2021.

As of 31 September 2021, the consortium has finalized rehabilitation works in two health facilities (municipalities of Maya and Mamoura), started maintenance works in three schools (municipalities of Maya and Sorman) and partially delivered medical equipment in one health facility (municipality of Sabratha). During the reporting period, 85 health workers and members of local authorities in all municipalities benefited from various training sessions. In parallel, several awareness-raising campaigns on inclusive access to basic services and health education were conducted by the consortium in the various municipalities: a total of 7,014 (3,725F, 3,289M) in Maya, Mamoura and Sorman municipalities, targeting the local community, migrants, refugees and IDPs.

The consortium reported additional difficulties with the municipal council of Sabratha, which was against the assignment of the rehabilitation works planned in the medical facilities to a company outside the municipality, although selected in accordance with EU regulations. The intervention of AICS was indispensable in order to support the consortium in the start up and subsequent management of the interventions. In fact, in July 2021, the PMU held a coordination meeting in the presence of some representatives of the municipal council and of the Italian Embassy in Libya, contributing to the easing of tensions between the parties. The meeting proved decisive as the municipality expressed its interest in the implementation of the activities and its willingness not to oppose the selection process of the contractor. Nonetheless, the consortium still reported tension and responded by intensifying the INGO WW-GVC local staff presence at the site of the works and by making some changes to the Bills of Quantities in agreement with the local counterparts. In parallel, the PMU reported these critical issues to the representatives of the Ministry of Local Governance, who expressed their willingness to interact directly with the municipality to facilitate the completion of the activities. At the end of the reporting period, the consortium reported a clear improvement in relations with the Libyan counterpart and ensured the completion of the interventions by the project end date.





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**Lot 5 Brak al Shati, Murzuk, Quatrum, Sebha, Showerif:** Contract awarded to the INGO CEFA in partnership with COSPE. The project has a duration of 12 months, a total budget of EUR 3,441,152.10 and started on 1 September 2020.

During this period, CEFA submitted four Quarterly Information Notes and 12 monthly updates.

Since the initial phase of the project, the consortium has reported a considerable delay in the implementation of the needs assessment. This difficulty was regularly reported by CEFA in the reports transmitted to AICS. The delay was mainly related to the difficulty in identifying a qualified company to conduct the needs assessment in the remote municipalities of southern Libya. In February 2021, the consortium successfully identified a suitable company to carry out the needs assessment that started in mid-March and ended in May 2021. In order to facilitate this activity and to speed up the start of the project implementation phase, the PMU arranged a short support mission for the INGO CEFA, by a local technical consultant for the duration of the needs assessment. The consultant provided technical expertise, previous experience, and knowledge of the area, gained also through previous missions conducted on behalf of AICS on this programme, and facilitated the interaction with local authorities. After concluding the needs analysis in June 2021, the tender documents were validated by the local authorities and the heads of the 12 health facilities targeted by the intervention to proceed with the launching of the calls for tenders to select the companies that will carry out the rehabilitation works and will provide for the purchase of equipment, tools and medical supplies. The following six months will see the start of the above interventions. The plan to start training courses aimed at strengthening the capacities of the medical and paramedical staff of the selected medical facilities, which will be carried out through COSPE and the Global Health Centre, has also been completed. Similarly, awareness campaigns will be launched for the local population of the five target areas of the project, on the topic of inclusive access to basic services.

Despite the above delays, CEFA has put in place an effective system of coordination among key stakeholders through an ongoing dialogue with local authorities and by organising a series of multi-stakeholder group meetings, as foreseen in the project document. In December 2020, CEFA proceeded with the implementation of the first meetings, aiming to create a space for dialogue among key stakeholders, promoting social cohesion and mutual understanding of key issues related to the health sector. Given the restrictive measures taken in the area to contain the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to help improve coordination between local stakeholders, CEFA structured a specific meeting for each municipality. These meetings have been successfully attended by representatives of local authorities and relevant health facilities, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), representatives of non-Libyan communities and groups that are most vulnerable, as well as representatives of relevant international actors such as OCHA and AICS. The Multi-Stakeholders Group meetings proved to be of particular importance in identifying the needs of medical staff and the key issues to be addressed through training activities for medical and paramedical staff and awareness-raising campaigns. With regard to access and security in the areas of intervention, the situation is rather critical and unstable, especially in the municipality of Sebha. CEFA is constantly monitoring the security situation with the support of a specialised and carefully identified agency, as well as coordinating with OCHA and other humanitarian actors on the ground. In order to overcome the delays accumulated in the start-up phase, the consortium requested a no-cost extension for seven months, until 31 March 2022, in order to complete the planned interventions in the five municipalities of competence. This request was approved by AICS on 31 August 2021.

In the initial phase of the project, the PMU organised and carried out a series of kick-off meetings with the Libyan municipalities and international NGOs involved, meant at presenting the Programme



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objectives, introducing the planned interventions and establishing a first contact between AICS, in coordination with the Italian Embassy in Tripoli, the Libyan counterparts and the organisations carrying out the interventions on the ground.

Further to the above, in February 2021 CEFA finalized a report on Conflict Sensitivity in Southern Libya, to facilitate the application of this approach in the implementation of the planned interventions in the designated municipalities.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS N. 3					
Contract	10/RSSDLI BYA/T05.43 7/2019 – Lot 1	10/RSSDLIBY A/T05.437/2019 – Lot 2	10/RSSDLIBY A/T05.437/2019 – Lot 3	10/RSSDLIBYA/T 05.437/2019 – Lot 4	10/RSSDLIB YA/T05.437/2 019 – Lot 5
ONG	IRC – ACTED - PUI	IRC – ACTED - PUI	IRC	IRC - WE- WORLD/GVC	CEFA - COSPE
Municipalities	Ajdabyia, Benghazi, Kufra/Ribya na	Al Bayda, Tobruk	Bani Walid, Khoms, Misurata, Zintan	Maya / Mamoura, Sorman, Sabratha	Brak al Shati, Murzuk, Quatrum, Sebha, Shawerif
Implementatio n period	01/09/2020 – 30/11/2021 3-month No- Cost Extension	01/09/2020 – 30/11/2021 3-month No- Cost Extension	01/09/2020 – 30/11/2021 3-month No- Cost Extension	01/09/2020 – 30/11/2021 3-month No-Cost Extension	01/09/2020 - 31/03/2022 7- month No- Cost Extension
Budget (Euro)	1,545,000.00	1,505,000.00	2,915,000.00	2,503,000.00	3,441,152.10
Sector	Health	Health	Health, Education, WASH	Health, Education	Health

#### 4.2 Capacity building and technical assistance - *budget heading 2*

In the third year of programme implementation, the COVID-19 pandemic significantly hampered the planned acceleration of capacity-building activities, which also suffered significant delays due to political and institutional developments involving central government counterparts.

AICS carried out a capacity-building activities and provided technical assistance during several meetings (kick-off meetings, follow-up meetings) in-person and by online, to representatives of the different municipalities. Moreover, the Technical Secretariat (made by representatives from the MoLG, EU Delegation and AICS, whose PMU also acts as Executive and Operational Secretariat) also held many consultations and meetings with the Libyan central and local authorities. These meetings represented opportunities to strengthen the knowledge of local authorities on the functioning and management of programmes financed by the EU and implemented by the international agencies in Libya. This included conflict sensitivity, inclusion, and accountability principles. Additionally, these meetings contributed to the strengthening of the strategic and programmatic coordination among local and international actors, to create synergies, by avoiding duplication and fostering the acceptance of local communities, focusing on sustainability, accountability and ownership.

In this framework, AICS has so far employed its own human resources and specialised national consultants to provide careful, scrupulous and timely technical guidance at local level, with very limited



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expenditure under this budget heading. Due to prevailing security and health risks, AICS avoids large gatherings and provides the bulk of the technical training through the INGOs at the local level.



Also, AICS continued training on strategic communication to support the communication focal points of the INGO partners of the programme through the preparation of appropriate tools to strengthen the production of quality content on access to basic services in Libya, in line with the objectives of the Programme. A detailed account of this activity is provided under Component IV - Communication and Visibility of this Report.


From 29 to 31 March 2021, a three-day internal workshop for the PMU was held in Tunis, bringing together both teams from Tunis and Tripoli. The purpose of the meeting was first, to strengthen the team building of the Programme Management Unit (as some members had not yet had the opportunity of an in-person meeting) and second, it allowed an exchange of information on the various aspects of common interest and strengthened mutual interactions between the Libya desk of the AICS Headquarters in Tunis and the whole PMU.

Regular PMU working sessions allowed to plan activities in view of the closure of Phase 1 and to envisage the preparation for Phase 2. In particular, ad hoc sessions were held on various technical and operational issues in order to improve coordination, elaborate a joint action plan and strengthen the capacities of international and local staff on specific issues such as monitoring and evaluation, reporting, administration and accounting, technical-administrative tools for programme management and communication and visibility activities.

### **4.3 Programme coordination and management - *budget heading 3***

As reflected in the budget (Annex IV), this component is comprised of two categories, namely the PMU (budget line 3.1) and the National Steering & Technical Committees and Seminars (budget line 3.2).

#### **PMU (budget line 3.1)**

The PMU is responsible for the planning, operational implementation, administrative management and reporting of the activities indicated in the sections of this report, in close coordination with the Operational/Financial Verifiers designated by the AICS Tunis Regional Office and, where necessary, with the Delegated Cooperation Unit at the AICS Headquarters. The PMU is also in charge of the technical coordination and secretariat within the programme architecture, and maintains regular relations with the EU Delegation, the Libyan national and local counterparts, the partner agencies  and the INGOs assignees of the projects selected through Calls for Proposals.

The PMU international personnel consist of one Programme Technical Coordinator/PMU Team Leader, one Compliance Officer, one Financial Assistant, two Programme Associates and one Communications Officer, the latter funded under Component 4. The programme's national staff consists of one Tunis-based Operations Assistant and Tripoli-based, one National Programme Officer, one Driver/Logistician Assistant, one Liaison Assistant, one Operations Assistant and one Office Security/Maintenance



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Assistant.

During the third year of programme implementation, the PMU has been closely engaged with the three entities operating in the framework of the Third-Party Monitoring activated by the EU, as detailed in Component V - Monitoring and Evaluation. In October 2020, the Result Oriented Monitoring (ROM) exercise of the EUTF programmes was started by the agency "Particip", selected by the European Union. Following a series of video conference meetings between October and December 2020, a first draft of the monitoring report for the AICS component was shared in March 2021. In general, the ROM identified as strengths of the AICS component the quality of interventions and the strong capacity of interlocution with Libyan counterparts, while it highlighted delays related to the selection of INGOs grant beneficiaries and their contract awarding through Call for Proposals. AICS Tunis analysed the report and submitted its comments to the EU, highlighting in the ROM report an insufficient attention to the peculiarities and complexities of the Libyan context and, above all, a sense of remoteness and superficiality of the recommendations. A response from the EU is currently awaited.

At the same time, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime presented a draft report of the research carried out in the period November 2020 to January 2021 on the Do No Harm approach of the implementing agencies of EU Trust Fund funded programmes in Libya. A first draft was shared in March 2021. AICS analysed the report and submitted their comments, highlighting again an inadequate and approximate understanding of the Libyan context. Feedback is currently awaited.

In the period under review, AICS produced and submitted to the European Union, under the supervision of the AICS Headquarters in Rome and in line with contractual requirements, no. 4 Quarterly Information Notes complete with Data Collection Tool according to the templates provided by the EU – which may need revision, as discussed with the EU Delegation, to enhance their usefulness. In addition, PMU coordinated the production of 12 Joint Monthly Updates, regarding the status of implementation of activities in the field and disseminated the JMU to the stakeholders involved in the management and implementation of the programme. The Joint Monthly Updates, produced in English and Arabic, are an internal information tool distributed to the EU and all international and Libyan partners of the programme's governing bodies.

In the framework of the preparation of the Phase II of the Programme "Recovery, Stability and Socio-economic Development in Libya - Baladiyati", the EUTF Management Team in Brussels continued its role as promoter of the initiative with the three implementing agencies, without [redacted] as well as with the Libyan counterparts.

On the basis of the [redacted] concept papers sent by AICS, [redacted] in April 2020, the EU developed an Action Document providing for funding of € 25 million, of which: 16 million allocated to AICS, [redacted]. On 4 June 2021 the EU Delegation shared the amended Action Document, with the following key data:

Total estimated cost: EUR 26,227,319

Total amount drawn from the Trust Fund: EUR 26,120,000

Total amount of co-funding: EUR 107,319

Indirect management with consortium members of RSSD 1:

Member States Agency – AICS: EUR 16,000,000

In the following months, the PMU engaged both in the preparatory activities for the finalization of the delegation agreement, signed on 9 June 2021, and in the planning and inception of the programme activities of Baladiyati Phase 2 (inception phase, POS 1, Communication Plan, Sub-delegation Agreement with CIHEAM Bari, selection of expatriate and local staff, etc.).





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### ***Budget line 3.2 - National Steering & Technical Committees and seminars***

Thanks to the support of the Embassy of Italy in Libya, AICS maintained a key role in coordinating with Libyan counterparts, both at central and local level, and international partners, as well as in organising the meetings of the programme's governing bodies.

The staff and the availability of the PMU's offices and video-conferencing equipment in Tripoli and Tunis allowed the organisation of bilateral technical meetings with the Libyan central and local authorities and with partner INGOs, including coordination and monitoring meetings on the ongoing activities, thus strengthening the exchange of information, the preparation of interventions and the timely identification of possible obstacles or required changes and modifications. The implementation of the initiative involved several virtual meetings of the Programme's governing bodies in Tripoli, mainly in the meeting room of the Ministry of Local Governance (MoLG) and the EU Delegation in Tunis, resulting in cost savings for this chapter.

During the third year of the Programme, four meetings of the Technical Committee (10, 11, 12 and 13) and one meeting of the Steering Committee (4) were held in Tripoli. The members of the committees shared information and deliberated the adoption of the following: Phase 1 no-cost extension for the 3 implementing agencies, variations of interventions, and reallocation of balance; and the Phase 2 formal approval.

Before, during, and after the mentioned meetings, multilateral and bilateral consultations enabled effective coordination to define the specific interventions for each municipality and the attribution of responsibilities to each implementing partner.

### **4.4 Visibility and communication - budget heading 4**

The communication and visibility activities implemented in year three were developed in line with the Communication and Visibility Plan produced by the PMU and approved by the EU in August 2019. As of 30 September 2021, progress has been made on the following initiatives:

- **Successful coordination of the Joint Communications Initiative (JCI)**  
To maximise the Action's visibility, the AICS Communications Officer worked closely with the communications experts from [REDACTED] and EU Delegation as One Communication Team (OCT) to ensure the rollout of the communication strategy jointly designed by partners in Year 1, to address the individual components and support the overall Action. This innovative approach was successful in maximising programme's outreach and visibility (e.g., the Facebook page of Baladiyati reached over 3,500 followers through organic traffic), since each content produced has been regularly shared by partners through their own online and offline platforms.
- **Increase of contents and organic traffic on Social Networks**  
In Year 3, a steady growth in organic traffic has been recorded for the programme-dedicated Facebook and Twitter accounts, on air from 26 April and 1 June 2020 respectively. During the reporting period, AICS worked consistently to ensure the collection and submission of weekly editorial calendars, each comprised of three posts in English and Arabic, presenting news and information about activities on the ground and goals achieved by AICS and implementing partners. Target audiences include: the Libyan population, the international public, key programme stakeholders, partner INGOs and other organisations. As of 30 September, a significant growth has been recorded in terms of online community size, bringing the total number of followers to over





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3,800, the majority of which (approximately 2/3) are from Libya, mostly Tripoli, but in smaller proportions from all regions around the country.

- **Integrated communication system involving Libyan counterparts**

Building upon the first communication workshop organized in October 2019, the PMU organized a second training experience on strategic communications, held in Tripoli between 8-10 June 2021. Organised in line with section 3.3 of the Communication & Visibility Plan (Awareness raising event), the three-day event was designed to strengthen the local authorities' capacity to communicate effectively and inclusively about access to basic services in line with programme goals. Attended by the communication focal points from 21 Libyan municipalities, alongside representatives from the Ministry of Local Governance and the Ministry of Planning, the workshop was successful in encouraging local counterparts to take ownership of the programme and contribute to its visibility through the production and dissemination of programme-specific information and communication materials at the municipality level. Furthermore, the initiative achieved important results both in terms of relations with the municipalities and in terms of media and visibility for AICS and the Baladiyati programme. Continuous dialogue with the Libyan communication officers has been maintained ever since through an ad hoc WhatsApp group developed by the PMU.

- **Expansion of the multimedia project**

In Year 3, the PMU intensified the multimedia production. Thanks to a consolidated network of professional Libyan reporters, AICS coordinated 11 reportages to mark projects completion or substantial achievements through quality photo and video materials. The municipalities covered are: Zawyia West, Janzour, Misurata (x4), Bani Walid (x3), Zawyia Central (x2). The collected materials have been published in and disseminated through the Social Networks, the AICS Tunis website and the programme-dedicated blog. In line with art. 2.5 of the Communication & Visibility plan, the PMU prepared and launched the tender dossier to procure a set of n.19 video-stories and one overall story documenting impact on ground through the voices and direct experiences of Baladiyati's protagonists (local communities, programme staff, authorities, programme stakeholders etc.).

- **Launch of the Baladiyati blog, with human interest stories from Libya**

In line with art. 2.3 of the Communication & Visibility plan, and as per AICS responsibility under the Joint Communications Initiative, in Year 3 the PMU developed the programme-dedicated human interest stories blog, that went live on August 25, 2021 (Content Management System – CMS: WordPress). As of 30 September, the blog allowed for the dissemination of 11 AICS-specific human-interest stories from project interventions, in Arabic and English, each enclosing direct quotes and photos.

- **Programme dedicated events**

In Year 3, AICS supported INGO partners in the organisation of seven ceremony events (in Zawyia West, Zawya Central, twice in Bani Walid, twice in Misurata and Janzour) to mark projects interventions, progress and achievements. These were attended by the local authorities, the management of the target facilities as well as project and programme staff.

- **Procurement of programme-dedicated visibility items**

Following the EU approval of the programme-dedicated brand identity in February 2021, AICS prepared and launched the tender dossier to procure the brand identity materials. Upon completion of an accurate market search, in August AICS selected the best out of n.3 offers received, with contract awarding expected in December.



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- **Internal communications serving improved programme information and coordination**

The PMU coordinated the regular production and timely submission of a Joint Monthly Update (JMU), intended to provide key information on ground level implementation to programme stakeholders. The first JMU issued in April 2020 was followed by 17 monthly releases in English and Arabic, 11 of which produced in Year 3.

#### **4.5 Monitoring and evaluation - *budget heading 5***

In the framework of the Third-Party Monitoring conducted on behalf of AICS, "Voluntas Policy Advisory" finalized the baseline study, with the final report approved by AICS in November 2020. The baseline study presents a detailed analysis of the context in the municipalities of the programme and is structured in four main sections: socio-economic and demographic analysis; analysis of access to basic services in the target municipalities, mainly in the health and education sectors; analysis of access to basic services in relation to the structures of the programme; use of the media concerning access to basic services for communication and visibility purposes.

Voluntas also carried out the documentary review of the Quarterly Information Notes and monthly updates submitted to AICS by the consortia of partner INGOs and conducted site visits and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), aimed at the production of the Quarterly Monitoring Reports (numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5). The Quarterly Monitoring Reports provide details on the progress achieved in the rehabilitation/maintenance of the target facilities and the provision of equipment and supplies, based on specific indicators, lessons learned and recommendations. In field monitoring, Voluntas worked alongside the company Diwan, operating in Libya. The role played by the PMU in Tripoli proved essential in facilitating coordination between Diwan, INGOs and Libyan counterparts.

On-site monitoring confirmed that planned interventions are in full swing and in line with expected results. Numerous variations in planned activities have led to delays in carrying out technical needs assessments and starting infrastructure works and equipment supply, sometimes resulting in requests to extend some projects. In spite of occasional difficulties in the coordination between implementing INGOs and their counterparts, there is regular and daily cooperation between the parties. In general, the interviewed managers of the target facilities showed a positive attitude towards the work carried out by the implementing INGOs and were in favour of possible future collaborations. From the interviews conducted, it is also clear that the role of AICS was appreciated by the Libyan counterparts, defining it as essential in the dialogue between the different actors involved.

The monitoring architecture includes regular contacts of the PMU with the actors designated by the European Union in the framework of the EUTF Third Party Monitoring of results in Libya: International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), Altai Consulting and Global Initiative. With these actors, the PMU had numerous technical and informative exchanges.

Altai Consulting conducted verification activities on selected interventions, the outcome of which was shared with the EU and AICS through reports. In March 2021, AICS received the report Third Party Monitoring of the EUTF In Libya - Third Periodic Report, produced by the same agency and concerning the verification/monitoring activity of the EUTF in Libya carried out in the period August to November 2020.

The PMU maintained regular coordination with ICMPD - EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (MENOA), in charge of verification and alignment of logframes between the different ongoing EUTF programmes, as well as monitoring of intermediate and cumulative results.

Global Initiative conducted an exercise aimed at assessing the application of the Do No Harm approach in the Community Stabilization interventions in Libya funded by EUTF. In this regard, Global Initiative



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shared with AICS the final report "Thematic Process Review 1: Community Stabilization" in March 2021. In the same month, AICS provided feedback on the accuracy of the information contained in the report.

The Results-Oriented Monitoring (ROM) mission on behalf of the EU, entrusted to Particip, took place from October to December 2020. The mission aimed to collect information on the status of the interventions implemented under the programme, to verify their progress and to provide recommendations. The ROM mission focused on selected interventions and the final report was shared with AICS in March 2021. In the same month, AICS Tunis provided its feedback on the content of the report.

Considering the extension of the programme for nine months (from 01 October 2021 to 30 June 2022), an additional budget of EUR 59,614 has been reallocated to the monitoring component. AICS will be able to continue to benefit from the collaboration with Voluntas Policy Advisory for the entire duration of the Programme. The extension of the collaboration between the parties has led to a revision of the original monitoring and evaluation plan, with a significant increase in the sampling size – i.e., number of field visits and KIIs carried out quarterly starting from the Quarterly Monitoring Report no. 5 (July to September 2021) and the redistribution of the assignments over a longer period, enabling post-completion monitoring to gauge the intervention impact and sustainability.

## **5. Profiles of local partners, target groups and beneficiaries**

**Direct beneficiaries:** the most vulnerable portions of the population within the 27 target municipalities, including local communities, migrants, IDPs, refugees and returnees. Due to the volatile situation on the ground in combination with the COVID-19 crisis, the baseline survey, aimed at defining the exact number and profile of direct beneficiaries, was delayed. The baseline data was available by November 2020.

**Indirect beneficiaries:** the entire population of the 27 target municipalities. The programme aims to strengthen infrastructure and improve access to basic services to benefit the entire population of the 27 target municipalities, estimated at approximately 3 million people based on existing demographic data.

**Target Group:** National and local institutional counterparts in Libya. Municipality councillors and staff at managerial and technical levels, representatives of executive bodies, staff and volunteers at local civil society organisations will continue to gain invaluable capacity development, decision-making skills, increased partnerships and resource management through their contribution to the Action objectives and results. In addition, line Ministries and state agency representatives of the decentralised Executive Offices (EOs) - in particular health, education, water, sewage and sanitation counterparts - are benefiting from direct involvement in the project implementation through access to technical consultations, capacity building, skills empowerment and programme ownership.

## **6. Assumptions and risks**

AICS has adopted the Risk Analysis of the overall Action as it comprehensively covers relevant hazards, assumptions and mitigation measures. In tandem, the PMU has worked closely with the Embassy of Italy in Tripoli, EU representatives and UN partners. The PMU also worked with INGO partners to monitor changes likely to impact the operational environment, prompt risk analysis updating and adopt timely mitigation measures. In the third year of the programme implementation, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to be as a major hazard and triggered stakeholder coordination and response platforms.



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Violent conflict remains the major risk to the Action and AICS relies on the Conflict Sensitivity Analysis (CSA) forums, funded by the EU, regularly organized by Peaceful Change Initiative to update the key changes in Libya's context, including any significant shift in the military situation and in the socio-economic situation, recently compounded by increasing COVID-19 infections. Sharing best practices and lessons is critical to generate collective learning and possible synergies.

Conflict sensitivity principles are embedded in the interventions at the municipality level, including during the initial consultation and identification process. Given that AICS' implementation arrangement within the municipalities relies on partnerships with INGOs, the security and access challenges relevant to these implementing actors is also accounted for in the programme risk management. AICS continues to verify that INGOs selected through CfP process have conflict sensitivity approaches integrated into their project cycle along with adequate ability to identify, monitor and report conflict sensitivity risks and opportunities as part of ongoing activities regarding context analysis and risk management. AICS M&E mechanisms ensure continued verification of the situation on the ground in the different locations covered by the programme.

Despite intermittent armed clashes and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, during the third year, conditions remained in place at the local level for programme implementation and the delivery of expected results. There were limited delays in field activities due to the restrictive measures implemented by the public authorities to prevent the spread of the virus. Bureaucratic restrictions on the movement of international organization staff constitute most impediments to humanitarian work. The restrictions often affect the process of INGO registration and obtaining visas for humanitarian organizations' staff. Moreover, frequent/extended power cuts are affecting many basic service facilities functions and tele-communications, slowing activities, and liaison and coordination with local authorities.

During municipal elections in 2019-2020, some new municipalities were established, including: Mamoura, which split from Maya; and Rebiana, which split from Kufra. Similarly, Zawya split into three municipalities: Central, West and South. The Action governing bodies, implementing partners (IPs) (AICS, [REDACTED]) and field partners are giving special attention to these municipalities to ensure conflict sensitivity and risk mitigation measures are addressed. Moreover, this implies dealing with four additional entities, compared to the 27 municipalities initially projected in the Action Document.

Operations in Libya are affected by a fragmented geographical and stakeholder landscape, typical of violent conflict-affected contexts. AICS has been addressing the trade-offs between: (i) the extended time-frame needed for consultations with local actors and the need for a quick decision making in the initial programming, not to hold up the start of the implementation phase nor delay procurement; (ii) prioritisation of needs expressed by the municipalities versus technical and operational feasibility of specific facility upgrades; and (iii) municipality broad, multiple needs versus funding availability and capacity to absorb assistance. Given the current political scenario, AICS will continue adopting a flexible approach to institutional aspects and operations.

Security concerns and hazards restrict the presence and mobility of international staff in Libya including interactions with local staff, authorities, and suppliers. AICS adopts all available risk mitigation measures and closely coordinates staff missions and institutional platforms with the Embassy of Italy in Tripoli.

## **7. Synergies created with other programmes**

### **7.1 Coordination with external actors**





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AICS successfully collaborated with a number of stakeholders involved in the Libya response, namely Libyan authorities at the central and local levels as well as the UN partners, INGOs and CSOs playing a key role in the provision of access to basic social services for the most vulnerable parts of the population. Strong relations with key Libyan stakeholders proved crucial for the successful implementation of projects. Libyan counterparts include notably municipality mayors and technical staff, whose support has been invaluable throughout the implementation phase; MoLG and Presidential Council, as well as line ministries covering health, education and the National Water Authority; representatives of the decentralised Executive Offices (EOs) of line ministries and state agencies.

During the third year of the programme, AICS participated in the meetings convened by the Local Governance sub-Working Group chaired by the MoLG and engaged with the WHO-chaired Health Sector coordination platform, to ensure alignment and balancing of interventions with all international and national actors working at the municipal level. The PMU staff regularly participated in various forums, [REDACTED]. Finally, AICS also participated in meetings with UNSMIL, OECD, [REDACTED] and FAO in relation to possible strategic studies on sustainable energy and water.

## 7.2 Coordination with other EU funded actions

AICS proactively participated in international fora and coordination platforms established under the EU framework, including:

- the Technical Working Group of the EU Trust Fund Action ‘Managing Mixed Migration Flows in Libya’ that facilitates coordination of protection and assistance to migrants and refugees, as well as support to host communities, and provides a venue for updates on the EUTF-funded research
- facility focused on ‘Monitoring the Political Economy of Human Smuggling in Libya and the Greater Sahara’;
- the EU Implementers’ Forum on the support to Libyan municipalities;
- the VNG-operated Libya Local Governance Programmes Platform database, which was further developed and updated;
- the Conflict Sensitivity Assistance Forum (CSA) which provides an opportunity for ongoing reflection of conflict dynamics and facilitates timely adjustments to assistance in line with the rapidly changing context.

## 8. Reporting requirements and reports schedule

The present Annual Report n.3 intends to provide comprehensive overview about the activities and financial delivery during the period between 1 October 2020 and 30 September 2021, by integrating the information already presented in the 4 ‘Quarterly Information Notes’ submitted to the EU Delegation over the year.

In the third year of the programme, the PMU continued coordinating the production of the (AICS, [REDACTED]) Joint Monthly Update (JMU) for programme stakeholders’ internal use, to ensure timely access to key information about implementation on the ground. As of 30 September, the PMU ensured the regular production and timely submission of 12 JMU monthly releases, in both English and Arabic.

In addition to formal reporting requirements in accordance with the Description of Action, AICS continued the internal six-month narrative and financial reporting in compliance with AICS’ internal regulations for the management of EU funds. In the timeframe of this Annual Report, AICS Tunis produced and delivered two six-month narrative and financial reports.





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## Annex I - Work Plan

Tasks	Status	YEAR 1 (Oct 18 – Sep 19)		YEAR 2 (Oct 19 – Sep 20)		YEAR 3 (Oct 20 – Sep 21)		9-month NCE (Oct 21 – Jun 22)	
		Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	Semester 5	Semester 6	Semester 7	Quarter 8
1 - Support to community services through grant contracts to INGOs									
1.1 - Publication Call for Proposals (CfP) no.1 - Health focused	Completed								
1.2 - Selection Proposals Round no.1 - Restricted procedure	Completed								
1.3 - Field Implementation 1st group of Municipalities (5)	Ongoing								
1.4 - Publication Call for Proposals no.2	Completed								
1.5 - Selection Proposals Round no.2 - Fast tracked Open procedure	Completed								
1.6 - Field Implementation 2nd group of Municipalities (2)	Ongoing								
1.7 - Publication Call for Proposals no.3 - Fast tracked Open procedure	Completed								
1.8 - Selection Proposals Round no.3 - Open procedure	Completed								
1.9 - Field Implementation 3rd group of Municipalities (16)	Ongoing								
2 - Capacity building and technical assistance									
2.1 - Municipalities needs assessment training event	Completed								
2.2 - Training Workshop 1 - Inclusive communication on service delivery	Completed								
2.3 - Training Workshop 2&3 - Strategic communications on access to basic services / Capacity building training on strategic communications	Planned *								
3 - Programme Coordination and Management									
3.1 - Inception Phase	Completed								
3.2 - Recruitment of the Programme Management Unit (PMU)	Completed								
3.3 - Set up of the PMU Offices	Completed								
3.4 - Establishment of Programme Governance Structure	Completed								
3.5 - Consultations with municipalities & Field Assessment	Completed								
3.6 - Endorsement and adoption of interventions - Governing Bodies	Completed								
Endorsement and adoption of interventions - 1st group of Municipalities (6)	Completed								
Endorsement and adoption of interventions - 2nd group of Municipalities (18)	Completed								
3.7 - Monitoring of interventions - Technical and Steering Committees	Ongoing								
3.8 - Reporting	Ongoing								
Inception Report drafting and submission	Completed								
Quarterly Information Notes drafting and submission	Ongoing								
Annual Reports drafting and submission	Ongoing								
4 - Communication & Visibility*									
4.1 Communications Officer recruitment	Completed								
4.2 Set up of Comms Officers network (EU, impl. partners, Municip.)	Completed								
4.3 Update AICS Component Communication and Visibility Plan	Completed								
4.4 Develop integrated Communication and Visibility Plan for the Action	Completed								
* Comms/visibility activities in coincidence with the programme coordination, community services support & capacity building activities	Ongoing								
5 - Monitoring & Evaluation									
5.1 Contracting of M&E Consultant/Agency	Completed								
5.2 Baseline Study	Completed								
5.3 Quarterly Monitoring Reports	Ongoing								
5.4 Endline Study	Planned								



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## Annex II - Logical framework

AICS RSSD I LY 05-01 Logframe update progress / indicators.							
	Result (by level)	IP Indicator/ common output indicators	Source and mean of verification	Assumptions	Baseline (value & year)	Target (value & year)	Total count at September 2021
Impact (Overall)	To contribute to fostering more inclusive social and economic environment and stability in the region	Perception of national and international experts	Independent data collection	Not applicable	To be collected by EU via external assistance	Increased compared to baseline	
Specific objective(s)	Stability and recovery of local communities, including migrant populations on the move and returnees, is progressively enhanced, most notably in conflict or post-conflict areas	Local Authorities promoting dialogue between population groups, especially on public policy issues that address common problems (e.g. natural resource management)	Independent data collection	To be inserted by MENOA-ICMPD	To be collected by EU via external assistance	Increased compared to baseline	
Immediate outcomes	1. Professional competences of staff working in the field of health, education and WASH increased [EU TF IO.3]	% of service providers reporting an increasing quality of basic services delivered	AICS Baseline Study; Progress Updates on the Programme; AICS Quarterly Monitoring Report; Capacity Building reports; Other Monitoring and activity reports; Municipality/community consultations conducted at baseline and final stages.	Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, in particular: 1.The Technical and Steering Committees are able to effectively coordinate the broader Action and streamline the 3 components – 2.The Technical and Steering Committees are able to adopt a flexibility criterion and adapt to changing context/ 3.Timely monitoring/ reporting on inception/ progress with initiatives at Municipality level enables a smooth delivery of tasks/decisions by the Steering and Technical Committees. Security situation on the field in the area of intervention.	0	50%	



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<p><b>2. Equipment of the health and WASH institutions enhanced</b> [EU TF IO.4]</p>	Number of people (possibly disaggregated by sex, age, status) having access to improved service facilities. <b>EUTF common indicator 2.9.</b>	AICS INGOs Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Municipality/community consultations; Progress Updates on the Programme; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Study; study; Reports;	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, its ability to provide support and facilitate the processes. Security conditions allow beneficiaries improved access to basic services facilities.	0	3,000,000	
	Number of local authorities reporting service provision capacity of target facilities has increased	AICS Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Study; Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, its ability to provide support and facilitate the processes. Security conditions allow beneficiaries improved access to basic services facilities.	0	25	
	Number of people (possibly disaggregated by sex, age, status) having access to improved service facilities. <b>EUTF common indicator 2.9.</b>	AICS Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Study; Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, its ability to provide support and facilitate the processes. Security conditions allow beneficiaries improved access to basic services facilities. Security situation on the field in the area of intervention.	0	3,000,000	
<p><b>3. General health and education infrastructure enhanced</b> [EU TF IO.5]</p>	Number of local authorities reporting service provision capacity of target facilities has increased	AICS Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Study; Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, its ability to provide support and facilitate the processes. Security conditions allow beneficiaries improved access to basic services facilities. Security situation on the field in the area of intervention.	0	25	
	% of service users reporting an increasing quality of basic services delivered/inclusive access	AICS Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Study; Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Municipality/community consultations; Implementing partners reports; Lists of equipment delivered;	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, its ability to provide support and facilitate the processes. Security conditions allow beneficiaries improved access to basic services facilities. Security situation on the field in the area of intervention.	0	50%	
<p><b>4. Awareness of general public regarding inclusive access to basic services (health, WASH, education)</b> [EU TF IO.8]</p>				Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, its ability to provide support and facilitate the processes. Security conditions allow beneficiaries access to basic services facilities.	0		



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Outputs	1.1. Trainings on health, education, energy and WASH conducted, including managerial skills, conflict sensitivity, do-no-harm principle and crisis management, inclusive access to basic services, communications between local authorities and communities	Number of staff from public, CSOs and private sector service providers trained - by AICS and INGOs. EUTF common indicator 2.8.	Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Annual reports of the Programme; AICS internal annual reviews and audits; AICS Baseline Study; Minutes of SC/TCs' meetings; Other Monitoring and activity reports; Municipality/community consultations conducted at baseline and final stages; EU Final evaluation report.	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Attaining the expected Outputs will depend on the Action governance's performance, in particular: 1. The Technical and Steering Committees are able to effectively coordinate the broader Action and streamline the 3 components – 2. The Technical and Steering Committees are able to adopt a flexibility criterion and adapt to changing context/ 3. Timely monitoring/ reporting on inception/progress with initiatives at Municipality level enables a smooth delivery of tasks/decisions by the Steering and Technical Committees	0	419	1932
Outputs	1.1. Trainings on health, education, energy and WASH conducted, including managerial skills, conflict sensitivity, do-no-harm principle and crisis management, inclusive access to basic services, communications between local authorities and communities	Number of training workshops organized by AICS for strengthening Municipalities' service capacity delivery (managerial skills, conflict sensitivity, do-no-harm principle and crisis management, inclusive access to basic services, communications between local authorities and communities)	Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Monitoring and activity reports; Municipality/community consultations; Training and workshops activities reports.	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Government and local authorities continue to support interventions and facilitate implementation on the field Security conditions allow beneficiaries participation to the trainings.	0	3	2
			Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Monitoring and activity reports; Municipality/community consultations; INGOs Official reports; Implementing partners activities documentation	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Government and local authorities continue to support interventions and facilitate implementation on the field. Participants to the training courses have the possibility to attend them	0	25	104



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2.1. Equipment and supplies delivered to health, WASH, education facilities and community/service infrastructures, including renewable/solar energy	Number of facilities/service receiving equipment and supplies	health providers enhanced supplies	Quarterly Monitoring Reports; Progress Updates on the Programme; Monitoring and activity reports; INGOs Official reports; Implementing partners activities materials;	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Government and local authorities continue to support interventions and facilitate implementation on the field.  Suppliers are able to find the required materials and deliver them to the areas of intervention	0	52	16
	Number of facilities/service receiving equipment and supplies	WASH providers enhanced supplies	Material delivery status reports.		0	5	2
3.1 Infrastructure works completed (Health and Education)	Number of health facilities rehabilitated and undergone maintenance <b>EUTF common indicator 2.1. bis</b>		Monitoring and activity reports; AICS Quarterly Monitoring Report; INGOs Official reports; Implementing partners activities materials;	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Government and local authorities continue to support interventions and facilitate implementation on the field. Contractors are able to find the required materials and to access the area in order to complete works.	0	30	17
	Number of facilities rehabilitated and undergone maintenance works <b>EUTF common indicator 2.1. bis</b>		Works progress reports.		0	19	16
4.1. Awareness of general public regarding inclusive access to basic services	Number of municipalities where public awareness activities/campaign(s) to promote an inclusive access to basic services are delivered (by INGOs)		Monitoring and activity reports; AICS Quarterly Monitoring Report; INGOs Official reports; Implementing partners activities materials; Other Monitoring and activity reports; Municipality/community consultations conducted at baseline and final stages; Implementing partners reports; Awareness campaigns materials.	Security situation on the field in the area of intervention. Government and local authorities continue to support interventions and facilitate implementation on the field. Security conditions allow beneficiaries participation.	0	25	14



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