REGIONAL SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE

SITUATION UPDATE 8 FEBRUARY 2024

IOM calls on all parties to ensure the safety of humanitarians and allow their unrestricted access to be able to assist those most vulnerable. IOM's 2024 Response Overview for the Sudan Crisis and Neighbouring Countries contributes to addressing the humanitarian needs inside Sudan and the complexities of a mixed movements response that is inclusive of the needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs), migrant returnees, third country nationals (TCNs), host communities, refugees and Government entities responding to the crisis. IOM's planned response was coordinated with Governments and humanitarian partners.

7.8 million

DISPLACED PERSONS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SUDAN

6.1 million

RECENTLY INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN SUDAN

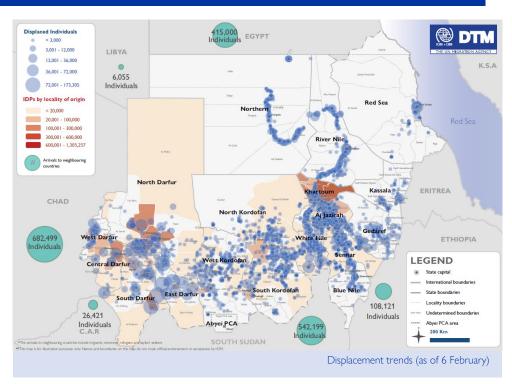
1.7 million

CROSSED TO NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

1.6 million

PEOPLE REACHED BY IOM IN SUDAN AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Since 15 April 2023



HIGHLIGHTS

During the reporting period, IOM continued providing critically needed humanitarian assistance in Sudan and neighbouring countries, particularly in Chad, South Sudan and Ethiopia:

- In Sudan, IOM reached 10,000 individuals in Sennar state with NFIs and multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) and worked with authorities to improve safe drinking water supply in Kassala state.
- In Chad, IOM increased capacity of transitional shelters to host 1,300 additional people in returnee sites, and registered 10,470 new displaced people with critical humanitarian needs for further assistance.
- In South Sudan, IOM continued providing critical onward transportation assistance (OTA) to returnees, assisting 45,995 new arrivals, and identifying 12,708 vulnerable individuals in need of fasttracking to access services and referrals.
- In Ethiopia, IOM screened and registered 600 migrants, in collaboration with the Ethiopian government, for OTA assistance, and organized information sessions ahead of the assistance.

- Cross-border operations from Chad also allowed to deliver 736 hygiene kits in West Darfur, through partner Solidarités International.
- IOM DTM released its fifth monthly displacement overview.

The continued arrival of returnees in neighbouring countries places significant pressure on public services which remain underdeveloped or limited due to insecurity or access and communication constraints. Without scaled-up investments in stabilization and livelihoods, returnees are at risk of remaining in protracted displacement and become dependant on aid. In South Sudan, OTA remains the most critical interventions to decongest border crossing points and provide safe and dignified humanitarian services in transit centers, however IOM could soon run out of funds to continue this critical service. Water, sanitation and healthcare are major concerns in all locations, particularly in face of rising reporting cases of cholera and associated deaths.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Sudan remains the largest displacement crisis in the world, with a staggering 10.7 million people displaced by the conflicts, including 9 million internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Armed clashes over the past nine months caused the displacement of 6,144,363 people, in addition to the three million already displaced before 15 April 2023. As of 6 February, 1,780,295 people had also crossed into neighbouring countries, with the majority in Chad (38%), South Sudan (31%) and Egypt (23%). One out of every eight IDPs in the world is now in Sudan.

The humanitarian situation across all 18 states remains dire, with the highest needs reported being food, non-food items and healthcare commodities and services. Field teams are reporting widespread hunger and food insecurity in conflict hotspots, including Aj Jazirah, Darfur and Kordofan regions, compounded by the limited food production in affected regions, particularly during the harvesting season of December to February.

The last two weeks saw the intensification of clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in and around Khartoum, including Bahri and Omdurman – clashes also continue in Aj Jazirah, South Kordofan and West Kordofan states. OHCHR reports that armed hostilities between the SAF and the RSF from 23 to 29 January have resulted in mounting civilian casualties across various locations in West Kordofan, North Kordofan and Aj Jazirah states and in Omdurman. Fighting was also reported in El Fasher, North Darfur, prompting widespread displacement and destruction of key infrastructure.

The last couple of weeks also brought on a number of important political developments from both sides – which to some degree are also reflective of the evolving situation on the ground. Following Sudan formally suspending its membership to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), on 31 January, RSF Commander, Lt. Gen. Dagalo, stated that Sudan "remains a bona fide member of IGAD." Meanwhile, the Civil Democratic Forces alliance (Tagaddum) is continuing its efforts to arrange a meeting with Lt. Gen. Al Burhan.

On 28 January, Lt. Gen. al-Burhan visited Algeria in a bid to secure the North African nation's support, after which Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune affirmed his country's support for Sudan to overcome "difficult circumstances." SAF is also moving forward with rebuilding ties with Iran, after Sudan's acting Foreign Minister Ali Sadeq travelled to Iran on 5 February, in what marks the first high-level diplomatic engagement between the two nations since severing ties in 2016. Meanwhile, the Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Sudan, Ramtane Lamamra, concluded a tour in Europe last week, where he met with several senior regional officials in efforts to resolve the crisis in Sudan.



IOM RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 1,178,922

Since the conflict erupted on 15 April, 1,178,922 crisis-affected individuals have been assisted by IOM in Sudan.

- 142,852 crisis-affected individuals received emergency shelter and non-food items in Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, East Darfur, Gedaref, Kassala, North Darfur, North Kordofan, Red Sea, River Nile, South Kordofan and West Darfur states;
- 168,479 individuals received hygiene kits. and 911,585 individuals other diverse WASH items in the Red Sea, Northern, Gedaref, South Kordofan, and West Darfur states;
- 3,840 individuals benefitted from emergency health assistance and 2,401 from nutrition support through eight health facilities (Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, Northern and Sennar states, and Abyei PCA North), mobile outreach to hard-to -reach communities, and two Migrant Resource and Response Centers (MRRCs) in Gedaref and Kassala;
- 5,890 displacement-affected individuals were provided with mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS);
- 55,801 individuals received protection assistance through awareness raising sessions, case management, psychological first aid (PFA), art therapy, psychoeducation, legal aid, and referrals to specialized services across central and eastern Sudan;
- 49,230 households received multi-purpose cash assistance
- 16,008 individuals benefitted from the construction of community infrastructures (such as roads, markets, health and community centers);
- 213 stranded migrants returned to their country of origin through voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance, while six at-risk individuals received humanitarian transportation assistance within Sudan;
- In close collaboration with UNHCR, IOM resettled 352 refugees from Sudan to Canada and the United States. Another 53 individuals have also assisted to reunite with their families in Belgium, Canada, the United Kingdom and USA.

In addition, through the Rapid Response Fund mechanism, IOM's partners have reached 392,249 direct beneficiaries in Sudan with ES/NFI, WASH, Health, FSL and Protection interventions so far.



Returnees leaving Malakal to their final destination @IOM South Sudan 2024

south sudan

327,870

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS **REACHED**

A total of 542,199 individuals have been recorded as arriving in South Sudan from Sudan (19% Sudanese and 81% non-Sudanese), an increase of 25,541 individuals from last reporting.

Since the start of the crisis, IOM in South Sudan has assisted 327.870 individuals.

- Registered and conducted verifications for 15,530 new benefitting from Onward Transportation arrivals Assistance (OTA), and identified 12,996 vulnerable individuals to access services as priority (including PSEA, information, available services and referrals) through DTM teams deployed at points of entries (PoEs);
- 281,875 individuals received OTA from PoEs to Renk, and from Renk to Malakal, by road transportation, boat and chartered flights, complemented by protection, cash, MHPSS, health and referral services;
- 17,832 individuals reached with MHPSS, and 180,704 with Protection services:
- 476,079 individuals received health care services (returnees, refugees and host communities);

• 155,002 individuals reached through CCCM in transit camps, and constructed 30 communal shelters and rehabilitated 8 existing ones on those sites.

IOM continues to deliver humanitarian relief, recovery and peace building services and remains one of the largest service providers in South Sudan. IOM and partners are closely following the humanitarian situation in Abyei following the recent clashes; increased peacebuilding activities will be needed in this area to avoid escalation and further displacements.

CHAD

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS 80,449 REACHED

A total of 682,499 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Chad from Sudan (79% Sudanese and 21% non-Sudanese), and increase of 48,567 since last reporting period.

Since April 2023, IOM has reached 80,449 individuals in Chad, mainly in Ouaddaï and Sila provinces.

- 9,710 individuals assisted with relocation/transportation to safer sites in Tongori and Deguessa;
- 32,516 individuals received with multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA);
- 15,348 individuals assisted with transitional shelter, 36,058 with NFIs and 51,034 with WASH in the supported sites;
- 10,989 people benefitting from protection services and a protection referral system, regular meetings with communities and regular sensitization activities on GBV, MHPSS and protection in Deguessa put in place for newly arrived households:
- A community center constructed and operationnal in the Tongori site;

IOM also initiated the construction of the interagency Humanitarian Hub in Farchana (Ouaddaï province), to be used by UN agencies and humanitarian partners to increase capacities in delivering assistance through cross-border operations into Darfur region of Sudan.

To date, IOM has registered 96,251 Chadian returnees (67% children) and has also identified 356 TCNs previously living in Sudan, 36 of which were assisted to return to their country of origin. Return and Intention Surveys and Village Assessment Surveys in Ouaddaï and Sila provinces are ongoing and results are expected to be published by mid-February.



Inauguration of the Tongori Community Center @IOM Chad 2024

ETHIOPIA

53,821

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS **REACHED**

A total of 108,121 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Ethiopia from Sudan (43% Sudanese and 57% non-Sudanese), an increase of 1,743 since last reporting period. During the reporting period, IOM continued to provide health, WASH, protection and MHPSS assistance as part of its multisectoral response to the Sudan crisis, in addition to:

- 118 individuals provided with Psychological first aid to address immediate psychological needs, and 61 received sexual and reproductive health services, and counselling to pregnant women on birth preparedness;
- 488 individuals received medical consultations and 936 were medically screened at PoEs in collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute; malnutrition screenings were also conducted, with no case reported;
- 1,572 individuals reached with awareness raising on risks of cholera and other communicable diseases:
- 144 reached in MRCs with protection assistance, of which 22 were referred for further assistance; 208 migrants received accommodation and other tailored services in the MRCs:
- 10 TCNs supported with voluntary humanitarian return services and continue liaising with Embassies and host countries for specific cases, including in Yemen and Syria;

While IOM continues to provide support at PoEs, the cash withdrawals, increased protection restriction on concerns, and shortage of food needs strengthened monitoring to ensure safety and dignity of affected populations.

EGYPT

44,280 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

The latest update on arrival figures from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dates to 31 December, and records more than 415,000 individuals (400,000 Sudanese, 6,000 Egyptian returnees, and 9,000TCNs) as having crossed into Egypt from Sudan.

To date, IOM Egypt has assisted a total of 44,280 individuals.

- 10,908 individuals provided with cash assistance (MPCA, housing);
- 2,891 individuals provided with shelter/NFI services;
- 16,823 people assisted with Health and nutrition services;
- 2,790 individuals received food security assistance;
- 9,669 individuals benefitting from improved WASH services.

So far, IOM has assisted 4,511 people with MHPSS (487), WASH (3,215), Protection (61) and PSEA awareness (748) services.

LIBYA

6,055

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

A total of 6,055 arrivals of Sudanese migrants and TCNs have arrived from Sudan (82% Sudanese, 18% non-Sudanese), which have been registered by IOM DTM. This includes 4,984 Sudanese migrants, 2,591 of which arrived indirectly from Chad, and 2,393 of which arrived from Sudan directly via Northern State and North Darfur. Additionally, to date DTM has recorded the arrival of 600 Libyan returnees and 471 TCNs from Sudan.



Returnees arriving from Renk to Malakal through OTA @IOM South Sudan 2024

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

4,511 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

A total of 26,421 individuals are recorded as having arrived in CAR from Sudan (82% Sudanese, 18% non-Sudanese), with most having arrived in the Am Dafock PoE, an estimated 88% of which are women and children. Of the total number of recorded arrivals, 2,886 were relocated from Am Dafock to Birao (Korsi site) by UNHCR and local authorities, or by their own efforts.

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