

REGIONAL SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE

SITUATION UPDATE | 21 MARCH 2024

8.4 million

DISPLACED PERSONS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SUDAN

6.5 million

RECENTLY INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN SUDAN

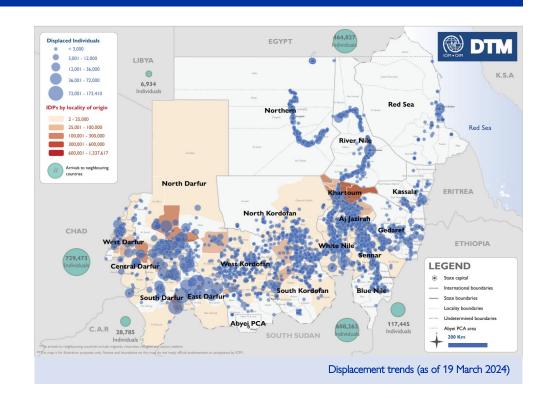
1.9 million

CROSSED TO NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

1.9 million

PEOPLE REACHED BY IOM IN SUDAN AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

Since 15 April 2023



HIGHLIGHTS

IOM continued providing critically needed humanitarian assistance in Sudan and in neighbouring countries, while advocating for safe, unhindered access to the most affected populations, including through the planning of cross-border operations from Chad, South Sudan and Egypt. IOM is also advocating for increased transition and stabilization interventions, particularly in neighbouring countries where the returnee populations might intend to remain. During this reporting period, IOM has:

- In Sudan, provided cash assistance to 1,900 households in internally displaced persons (IDP) gathering sites in Port Sudan (Red Sea state), and trained 60 farmers in on climate change, smart agricultural practices, income-generating activities (IGAs), and small business management in White Nile state.
- In Chad, distributed water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) kits containing soap, jerrycans, and water purification sachets reaching 15,623 individuals in displaced sites across Ouaddaï, completed the construction of 596 transitional shelters in Deguessa (576) and Tongori (20) which will benefit approximately 3,118 individuals, and conducted art therapy sessions for 15 elderly women in Deguessa.
- In South Sudan, continued providing primary health care services in health facilities and mobile clinics, fit for travel screening and assisting deliveries and vaccination for children and adults assisting 21,964 individuals. IOM also provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, psychological

first aid, support, counselling and referrals to 3,559 people.

- In Ethiopia, provided tailored services in the Migrant Response Centre (MRC) including specialized and individual based assistances for 473 returning migrants. Furthermore, the MRC has referred two patients to Metema General Hospital (1) and Metema Health Centre (1) for further medical assistance. All returnees were assisted with registration, food, water, non-food items (NFI), psychosocial and transportation support from the point of interception to the MRC.
- In Egypt, provided over 1,400 individuals with cash assistance including multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) and housing assistance.
- In CAR, resumed flow monitoring activities at the border due to increased influx of arrivals from Sudan. The first dashboard is in production and will be published in the coming days after coordination with the national partner, National Commission for Refugees (CNR).
- In Libya, published a <u>Profile of Sudanese Migrants in Libya</u>. This profile provides information on the situation and vulnerabilities of Sudanese migrants in Libya, including those having arrived after the onset of conflict in mid-April 2023 and provides an update to a brief published in May 2023.
- Published the 24th Weekly Displacement Snapshot.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Sudan remains the largest displacement crisis in the world, with over 11 million people displaced by the conflict inside and outside of the country, including 9.5 million internally displaced persons.

Armed clashes over the past 11 months have caused the displacement of 6,505,486 people, in addition to the three million already displaced before 15 April 2023. As of 19 March, 1,955,726 people have also crossed into neighbouring countries, with the majority in Chad (37%), South Sudan (31%) and Egypt (24%).

With the start of Ramadan, heavy clashes erupted in the Sudanese capital, with the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) taking control of the National Radio and Television Corporation in old Omdurman, while Lt. Gen. Al Burhan told SAF troops that it will press to take more ground after its most significant advance in an 11-month-old war against the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Meanwhile, on 9 March, a delegation from the Sudanese Coordination of Civil Democratic Forces (CCDF - Taqaddum), led by former Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok, visited Cairo to meet with senior Egyptian officials, officials from the Arab League and Sudanese political figures in Egypt. As per the statement released, the visit aimed to end the ongoing devastating conflict in Sudan. Kenya and South Sudan have also reiterated their commitment to rally regional support to end the conflict in neighbouring Sudan, citing the danger of spillover effects.

More recently, newly formed National Forces Coordination (NFC), led by Sovereign Council Deputy Chairman Malik Agar, announced its intention to sign a political accord with the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF). Separately, three political parties rejected a political settlement proposal being discussed in secret. Reportedly, the settlement would end the armed conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) by giving both sides a share in the government to be formed after the war.

On 7 March, the United States (U.S.) Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield stated that the U.S. is working with the UK to help the UN Security Council address the "atrocities" happening in Sudan. U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan Tom Perriello is also embarking on his first regional tour (Uganda, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates) since his appointment to seek increased political will in the region to help bring the conflict to an end, including from countries that favour or support one of the warring parties.

Whilst fighting continues across much of the countries, with an escalation in Darfur, Khartoum, Omdurman, Bahri, Aj Jazirah, West and South Kordofan, and reportedly Gedaref, the UN warned that malnutrition is soaring in Sudan, pointing out that more 220,000 severely malnourished children could die in the coming months if they do not receive urgent assistance. Across Sudan, an estimated 3.7 million children are suffering from malnutrition. Many are unable to access treatment, especially those living in areas that are difficult to reach.

Sudan faces a crisis in protection, with gender-based violence (GBV) pervasive, underscoring the critical need for protective measures and support systems. Gender-sensitive humanitarian interventions are key in addressing the needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls affected by conflict. These interventions will enhance their access to vital services, protection, and assistance, while also combatting the scourge of sexual violence prevalent in conflict-ridden communities. Moreover, severe shortages of basic goods, including food, water, medicines, and fuel, have intensified nationwide due to disrupted trade routes and limited access. The health sector is in a state of collapse due to recurrent attacks, looting, and the occupation of medical facilities and hospitals. Sudan is currently facing widespread outbreaks of cholera, dengue, malaria, and measles. The telecommunication outages also exacerbated the already-dire humanitarian situation throughout Sudan, hindering humanitarian programming and access to cash and essential services.

IOM calls on all parties to ensure the safety of humanitarians and allow their unrestricted access to be able to assist those most vulnerable. <u>IOM's 2024 Response Overview</u> 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.



IOM RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN



1,330,406

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

Since the conflict erupted on 15 April, IOM has assisted 1,330,406 crisis-affected individuals across Sudan.

- 121,862 crisis-affected individuals in Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, East Darfur, Gedaref, Kassala, North Darfur, North Kordofan, Red Sea, River Nile, South Kordofan and West Darfur states received emergency shelter and NFIs.
- 172,478 individuals received hygiene kits and a total of 1,054,604 individuals benefited from the provision of WASH interventions in the Red Sea, Northern, Gedaref, South Kordofan, and West Darfur states.
- 73,840 individuals benefited from emergency health assistance and 2,401 individuals 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 Centres (MRRCs) located in Gedaref and Kassala.
- 7,155 displacement-affected individuals were provided with MHPSS services.
- 35,214 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 MPCA.
- 24,808 individuals benefitted from the construction of community infrastructures (such as roads, markets, health and community centres).
- 333 stranded migrants returned to their country of origin through voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance.
- In close collaboration with UNHCR, IOM also resettled 469 refugees from Sudan to Canada and the U.S. Another 69 individuals have also been assisted to reunite with their families in Belgium, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.

In addition, through the Rapid Response Fund mechanism, IOM's partners have reached 392,249* direct beneficiaries in Sudan with Emergency Shelter (ES)/NFI, WASH, Health, food security and livelihoods (FSL), and Protection interventions so far



Qisma receives a visit from IOM's mobile medical team at an IDP gathering site in Wadi Halfa. © IOM Sudan 2024

SOUTH SUDAN



383,579

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

A total of 608,262 individuals have been recorded as arriving in South Sudan from Sudan (21% Sudanese and 79% non-Sudanese).

Since the start of the crisis, IOM in South Sudan has assisted 383,579 individuals.

- 342,701 individuals received onward transportation assistance (OTA) from points of entry (PoEs) to Renk, and from Renk to Malakal, by road transportation, boat and chartered flights, complemented by protection, cash, MHPSS, health and referral services.
- 30,131 individuals reached with MHPSS, and 195,873 with Protection services.
- 520,184 individuals received health care services (returnees, refugees and host communities).
- 175,000 individuals reached through Camp Coordination and Camp Management (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 peacebuilding 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, in addition to pre-positioning of emergency shelter and NFI kits.

*Activities supported by the Rapid Response Fund are implemented by parties external to IOM. The count of people reached by these activities is not included in total number of people reached presented above.





CHAD



TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

A total of 729,473 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Chad from Sudan (77% Sudanese and 23% non-Sudanese).

Since April 2023, IOM has reached 94,102 individuals in Chad, mainly in Ouaddaï and Sila provinces.

- 13,102 individuals assisted with relocation/transportation to safer sites in Tongori and Deguessa.
- 32,516 individuals received with MPCA.
- 21,491 individuals assisted with transitional shelter, 40,624 with NFIs and 69,686 with WASH in the supported sites.
- 38,609 people benefitting from protection services offered in Tongori and Deguessa sites, including a protection referral system, regular meetings with communities and regular sensitization activities on gender-based violence (GBV) and MHPSS.
- A community centre was constructed and is operational in the Tongori site.

IOM has completed 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, and has put in place a hub manager.

To date, IOM has registered 101,347 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 have been completed and results are being analyzed, before sharing with partners.

Displaced by the ongoing conflict in Sudan, Chadian returnees are still in dire need of life-saving assistance. The mass displacement towards the eastern regions of Chad, which includes returnees, has strained services and resources significantly, particularly in host provinces with low socioeconomic resilience such as Ouaddaï, Sila, and Wadi Fira as highlighted in IOM Chad's Advocacy Note.

Humanitarian organizations are presently collaborating with the government to provide shelter, WASH, healthcare, education, and protection assistance to address the displacement crisis and enhance services in host provinces. However, the majority of humanitarian funding for assisting returnees was exhausted by December 2023. With ongoing conflict in Sudan preventing return and forcing more individuals into Chad, it is crucial to maintain emergency lifesaving services. Additionally, funding for sustainable, long-term programming is essential to strengthen social cohesion and community resilience in both returnee and host communities.



Art therapy session for elderly women in Deguessa, Chad. © IOM Chad 2024

ETHIOPIA



106,175

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

A total of 117,445 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Ethiopia from Sudan (45% Sudanese and 55% non-Sudanese).

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:

- 842 individuals received medical consultations and 3,497 were medically screened at PoEs in collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute; 491 malnutrition screenings were also conducted, with no case reported.
- 332 individuals provided with MHPSS services to address immediate psychosocial needs.
- 473 vulnerable migrants reached in the MRCs with



protection assistance, in addition to other key services.

• 584 refugees were transported from the transit camp to the Awlala refugee camp, and 35 TCNs were provided with voluntary return services.

While IOM continues to provide support to returnees, refugees and TCNs, the local government is expecting approximately 7,000 Ethiopian returnees from Sudan, who were displaced in 2021 from Amhara Region following intercommunal conflict between Amhara and Kemant communities. The local government has requested for durable solution support including food, shelter, NFI, WASH and livelihood assistance.

EGYPT



TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

The latest update on arrival figures from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs shows 464,827 individuals (97% Sudanese and 3% non-Sudanese) as having crossed into Egypt from Sudan.

To date, IOM Egypt has assisted a total of 49,881 individuals:

- 14,053 individuals provided with cash assistance (MPCA, housing).
- 563 individuals benefited from outreach assistance including community events organised for newly arrived Sudanese nationals.
- 181 people have participated in capacity building activities.
- 18,382 individuals provided with shelter/NFI services.
- 20,518 people assisted with Health and nutrition services.
- 2,706 individuals received food security assistance.
- 3,013 individuals reached with education assistance (grants, school kits).
- 186 persons assisted with VHR.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC



TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

A total of 28,785 individuals are recorded as having arrived in CAR from Sudan (79% Sudanese, 21% non-Sudanese). Most arrived in the Am Dafock PoE, an estimated 88% of which are women and children. Arrivals are then relocated from Am Dafock to Birao (Korsi site) by UNHCR and local authorities, or by their own efforts. Due to the recent new waves of arrivals from Sudan, IOM has resumed its flow monitoring activities at the Am Dafock border crossing point and has trained enumerators, in collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees.

Since the beginning for the crisis, IOM has assisted 4,511 people with MHPSS (2,636), WASH (3,215), Protection (571), and PSEA awareness (748) services.

LIBYA



6,934

TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS REACHED

Since April 2023, a total of 6,934 arrivals (85% of Sudanese and 15% non-Sudanese) have been observed by IOM DTM in Libya arriving directly from Sudan via Northern State and North Darfur or indirectly via Chad, with 500 arrivals observed during the reporting period. Moreover, IOM published a Profile provides information on the situation and vulnerabilities of Sudanese migrants in Libya, including those having arrived after the onset of conflict in mid-April 2023 and provides an update to a brief published in May 2023.

IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY:















Humanitarian Aid



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