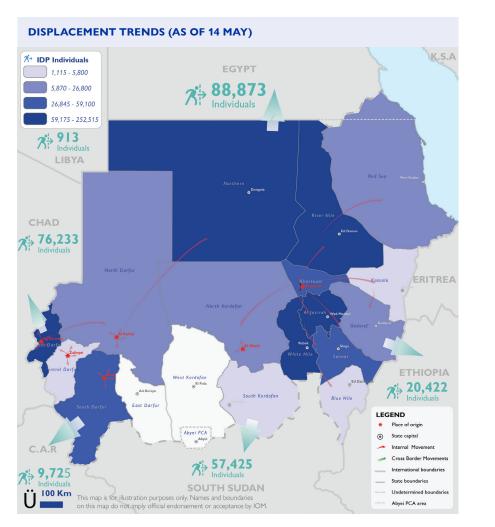


SUDAN: ESCALATING CONFLICT SITUATION UPDATE 16 MAY 2023

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 urges all parties to cease hostilities and joins the UN Secretary General in appealing for the restoration of calm and dialogue to resolve the crisis and enable humanitarian aid.



843,130 Internally Displaced People

253,591 Cross Border Movements

SITUATION OVERVIEW

May 15 marked one month since the beginning of the conflict in Sudan and attacks continue in Khartoum, North Kordofan and West Darfur despite on-going peace talks and the signing of the Declaration of Commitment to Protect the Civilians of Sudan. According to the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH), to date at least 701 people have reportedly been killed and 5,576 injured. Mini Minawi, Governor of the Darfur Region, stated that leaders of armed movements (himself included) and signatories to the Juba Peace Agreement (JPA) under the Darfur Track met and agreed to join forces to protect public and private properties, secure highways and protect humanitarian and other international organizations.

Crimes and lootings, including of Embassies and humanitarian premises, along with severe shortages in basic commodities continue to be reported, especially food, water, electricity and fuel. Prices for those commodities continue to increase considerably whilst financial services are reportedly disrupted as cash is not available in banks. UN humanitarians expect a 25% increase in food prices over the next three to six months; WFP expects food insecurity to reach a 'record high' in the coming months. UNFPA warns of the increasing risks of gender-based violence, sexual abuse and exploitation against women and girls as the conflict continues. Healthcare facilities continue to be attacked and less than one-fifth of health facilities remain fully functional in Khartoum (OCHA).

Over 1 million people have been newly displaced, including 843,130 displaced internally and 253,591 who have fled to neighboring

countries. The majority of IDPs are leaving Khartoum (68%), West Darfur (19%) and South Darfur (6%), North Darfur, Central Darfur, and North Kordofan states. They are mostly arriving in White Nile (25.18%), West Darfur (18.59%), River Nile (13.81%), and Northern (13.34%) states.

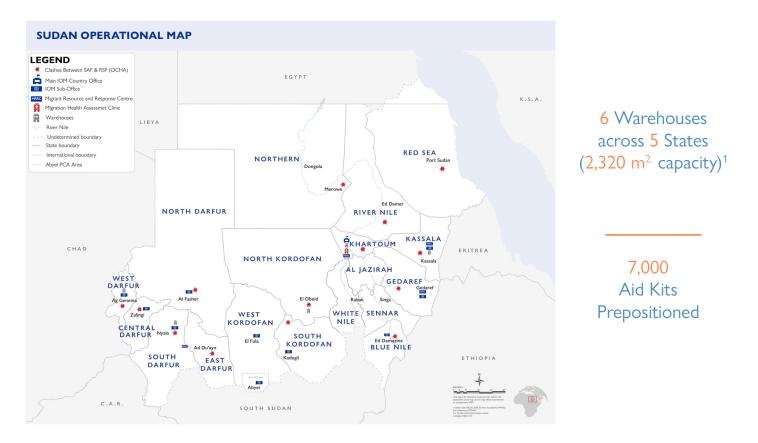
An inter-agency assessment conducted in Gedaref, which included IOM as a participant, revealed that 16,603 displaced persons of 22 nationalities are hosted in Port Sudan, including IDPs, refugees and third-country nationals. The Humanitarian Aid Commission, the main government body coordinating humanitarian affairs, is advocating for alternative locations to host the displaced. A high-level government meeting held in Port Sudan identified health as a top priority and encouraged the delivery of aid through national NGOs and humanitarian hubs. Meanwhile, the civil aviation authority has announced that the closure of the airspace will be extended until 31 May. Evacuation and humanitarian flights are exempt, only if proper documentation is provided.

Mixed flow movements are projected to continue rising if the conflict expands. IOM, UNHCR and government sources indicate that at least 76,233 people have arrived in neighboring Chad, 57,425 people in South Sudan, 88,873 people in Egypt, 20,422 people in Ethiopia, 9,725 people in the Central African Republic and 913 people in Libya since the start of the conflict.

Humanitarian needs are projected to skyrocket in this environment. IOM estimates that an additional 1.8 million people will be displaced in the next six months, should the crisis persist at this rate (DTM). Before this recent uptick in conflict, 3.8 million people were displaced across Sudan. The Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan is being revised to capture the new needs and expanded response. The IOM Response Overview will be released on 17 May, and will demonstrate IOM's contributions to the collective response, in Sudan and neighboring countries.

RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN



IOM emergency team based in Port Sudan led by the CoM continues to coordinate operations with partners on the ground, participating in joint inter-agency assessments and meeting with government authorities. IOM's action plan for Eastern Sudan has been finalized, which includes the opening of a new warehouse in Port Sudan. Teams will be travelling on 16 May to Kassala and Gedaref to launch operations. Response efforts are also underway – NFI kits, enough for more than 232,000 people are en-route to Port Sudan for distribution. Staff have been deployed to Kassala and Gedaref, where NFI and WASH assistance will also be delivered. IOM is actively participating in the on-going Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and Regional Refugee Response Plan (RRRP) revisions processes. OCHA and UNHCR will jointly launch the revised HRP and a Regional Refugee Response Plan for Sudan on 17 May. IOM's response plan will be launched on the same day, with a donor and Member State briefing on 22 May.

120,000 liters of water supplied daily

10,795 returnees screened

376 TCNs supported

The Sudan crisis continues to impact the humanitarian situation in South Sudan. As of 14 May, the IOM DTM team has recorded a total of 57,154 arrivals through Renk (Upper Nile), Aweil (Northern Bahr el Ghazal) and Rotriak (Unity). South Sudanese are the majority of the arrivals (53,192 individuals). The Wunthow/Juda crossing remains the most used entry point.

Since the start of the crisis, 10,795 returnees have been screened at the border point, and 2,771 vulnerable people were identified and referred for either medical assistance, specific WASH assistance and transportation based on their needs. IOM and partners are supporting the delivery of 120,000 liters of water daily to the Renk transit center and finalizing the construction of 4 emergency latrine blocks. The IOM team in Renk is also continuing to support the onward movement of South Sudanese returnees hosted at the transit center. A total of 925 South Sudanese returnees have been assisted with transportation departing from Renk destined for Malakal, through the Nile. This is in addition to the regular transportation from the border in Juda to the transit center that is ongoing as more people continue to arrive. IOM alongside UNHCR and other humanitarian partners are supporting the Government of South Sudan with the establishment of a second transit center in Malakal. Since the beginning of the response, the mission has supported 376 third country Nationals (TCNs) with transportation from the Juda border point to Renk and then to Paloch airport for onward movement.

The Long Road Home for a Kenyan Mother Fleeing Sudan



Caroline loads her luggage in anticipation of the journey back home. © IOM 2023

It had barely been a month since 36-year-old Caroline from Kenya, had started her new job in Sudan as a domestic worker when the fighting broke. Two days later, Caroline and her employer decided to move out of Khartoum for an eight-day journey.

After they reached Atbara (a city north of Khartoum), Caroline's employers were planning their exit as fighting intensified. The family offered her USD 100 for transportation, and the address of the Kenyan embassy scribbled on a piece of paper. After a very long journey, Caroline's arrival at the embassy a day later came as a relief as she met others like her who were waiting to depart. The Kenyan embassy organized transportation for Caroline and 54 others, which took about 11 hours across the 400-kilometre journey to the border with South Sudan.

Since the beginning of the response, IOM in South Sudan has supported 320 third-country nationals (TCNs) with transportation from the Juda border point to Renk and then to Paloch airport for onward movement to their home countries. Read more <u>here</u>.

" I just want to see my children, that is my priority."

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

IOM has deployed a DTM team to participate, alongside the government and UNHCR, in the registration of 9,725 Sudanese refugees and Central African returnees in Am-Dafock (south of South Darfur). The number of people in Am-dafock is estimated to be 9,725 (1,684 households), including 6,328 Sudanese asylum seekers and 3,397 spontaneous returnees who took refuge in Sudan following the 2019-2020 crisis. Women and children make up the majority of arrivals (80%). IOM's DTM team is also in the process of setting

10,485 migrants registered at Migrant Response Center

19,500 arrivals received WASH assistance

11,985 arrivals received health assistance

Over 20,400 people from 66 nationalities have arrived at the <u>remote Ethiopian border town of Metema</u> since the fighting started. IOM has a Flow Monitoring Point (FMP) in Metema that is currently recording over 600 daily arrivals. Flows are mixed, with Ethiopian nationals (48%) being the largest group of arrivals, followed by Sudanese (17%), Eritrean (11%) and Turkish (8%) nationals. In addition, in the last 4 days more than 180 arrivals have been recorded through the new FMP in Kurmuk. There is also information about the crossing of 5,359 returnees (995households) at Mensa Almahal entry point in Benishangul-Gumuz between 24 April and 11 May. Returnees went back to different kebeles of Guba woreda of Metekel zone. The zone remains inaccessible due to ongoing security issues.

IOM has registered 10,485 migrants at its Migrant Response Centre (MRC) in Metema, and provided food, water, temporary shelter and hygiene materials to migrants in need, including the elderly and persons with disabilities. IOM, in collaboration government health authorities, has supported more than 11,985 Ethiopian returnees and third country nationals with medical screening and health care services at Metema Point of Entry. IOM provided transportation assistance to 10,485 Ethiopians to return to their home communities and transportation assistance to 1,696 third country nationals to Addis Ababa, including 412 supported with Assisted voluntary return to their home countries. IOM also supported the relocation of 445 Eritrean refugees and Sudanese asylum seekers from the Metema entry point to the new UNHCR transit Center around Metema, providing meals and water, as well as medical support. At the border point in Metema, IOM is providing shelter and water facilities; and the construction of two blocks of emergency latrines, one block of emergency showers and waste management facilities is near completion.



IOM has scaled up presence and response at border points and its Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Metema and is providing multi-sectoral assistance to arriving people, including immediate health and WASH assistance, onward transportation, and tailored protection assistance. © IOM 2023

750 hygiene kits, dignity kits
and food boxes delivered30 first aid
kits provided

According to the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, more than 88,873 people (77,758 Sudanese, 6,000 Egyptian returnees, 5,115 third-country nationals (TCN)) have crossed into Egypt from Sudan as of 14 May. IOM has so far provided 50 wheelchairs, 750 hygiene kits, 750 dignity kits, 750 food boxes, and 30 first aid kits through the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC). IOM is preparing to provide an additional 1,500 hygiene, 1,500 dignity, 1,000 food boxes, and 80,200 water bottles.

CHAD

The last week has seen an increase in arrivals from Sudan, bringing the total number of refugees to an estimated 60,000 people, and the number of returnees to 16,233 people. Of the registered returnees, 79% are women and 62% are minors. IOM is coordinating the returnee response and is co-leading the overall UN response to the Sudan crisis in Chad, working closely with a range of operational partners to deliver immediate response, mainly WASH, food and multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA). In the coming days, IOM will start doing multipurpose cash distributions for the returnee households as part of its assistance towards voluntary return to communities of origin.



A family of Chadian returnees in Eastern Chad. © IOM 2023

LIBYA

As of 10 May 2023, 913 Sudanese and other migrants have arrived in Al Kufra directly from Sudan (Northern State and North Darfur) as well as indirectly via Chad. Compared with pre-crisis periods, the arrival trends, are within the range of the average pre-crisis arrivals per month observed in Al Kufra. At the local level, in Gatroun and Kufra, emergency committees have been established by authorities to develop preparedness strategies in the event of an emergency response.