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 Response Overview for the Sudan Crisis and Neighboring 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.

**DISPLACEMENT TRENDS (AS OF 22 AUGUST)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)</th>
<th>Arrivals in Neighboring Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,601,593</td>
<td>1,040,883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REGIONAL SUDAN RESPONSE**

**SITUATION UPDATE 22 AUGUST 2023**

**SITUATION OVERVIEW**

The conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has extended to new geographical areas, including El Fula in West Kordofan and Aj Jazirah state, in the proximity of Wad Madani town. Aj Jazirah state is now hosting approximately 241,517 IDPs, 6.71% of the total number of IDPs recorded in Sudan – and of which 99.82% were displaced from Khartoum. As the conflict continues, the risk of armed groups, tribal leaders or stakeholders pledging their support for one or the other warring parties also increases. Most recently, the leader of the Third Front Tamazuj announced the movement’s alignment to the RSF, while the Sultan of the Massalit pledged its support to SAF. Reports also allude to the integration of new entrants into both SAF and RSF.

Following last week’s meeting among the signatories to the Political Framework Agreement (PFA), a communiqué was released in which participants outlined a vision to end the war and establish a ‘new Sudanese State’, emphasizing the need for an inclusive political process where political and civilian groups could come together with the exception of the dissolved National Congress Party (NCP). In the same line, Transitional Sovereignty Council Deputy Chairman, Malik Agar, proposed a roadmap to end the war – which includes security arrangements and an inclusive political process. In response, RSF representatives allegedly rejected the initiative whilst reiterating their commitment to the Jeddah process.

Fighting continues in Khartoum, Bahri, and Omdurman with shooting, artillery fire and air strikes reported in various areas of the...
city, whilst RSF and SAF continue to claim respective victories on one another. Airstrikes were also reported in Al Jazirah State in areas bordering Khartoum States with growing fears of the conflict expanding further into the state, not only putting at risk IDPs and residents of displacement, for many secondary, but also impacting ongoing humanitarian responses.

Over the last week, fighting was reported across all three Kordofan states for the first time – in El Obeid (North Kordofan), Kadugli (South Kordofan) and El Fula (West Kordofan). In South Kordofan, fighting between SAF and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North/Al Hilu (SPLM-N-AL) was reported in and around Kadugli (DTM Flash Alert) causing the displacement of 7,039 households, Dalami town and close to Abu Jubaia town. The situation in the state remains tense. In Blue Nile State, fighting was reported around Kurmuk following the SAF’s continued advance. In view of the escalating situation in South and West Kordofan, UNITMAS has released a statement calling on military actors to refrain from further armed conflict and ensure the protection of civilians.

During the reporting period, fighting between SAF and RSF escalated across several parts of Darfur, especially around Nyala (South Darfur) and El Fasher (North Darfur). In El Fasher, DTM reports the displacement of at least 10,000 newly displaced households, 60 casualties and 250 injuries as a result of the clashes between RSF and SAF between 11 and 17 August. SAF released a statement confirming the death of Yassir Fadal Allah, commander of the 16th Infantry Division, in Nyala. On 17 August, the United States released a press statement calling on SAF and RSF to cease renewed fighting in Nyala and comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, especially regarding the protection of civilians. Differently to previous statements, the Joint Forces of the Darfur armed movements (and signatories to the Juba Peace Agreement (JPA)), have more recently acknowledged their limited capacity to deploy forces to protect civilians in Darfur.

The current total estimate of recently displaced individuals across Sudan has reached 3,601,593 Individuals (719,521 Households). The current assessment has observed the IDP caseload in all of Sudan’s 18 states. The highest proportions of IDPs have been observed in River Nile (14.17%), East Darfur (10.62%), Northern (10.08%), Sennar (7.97%), and White Nile (7.86%). Field teams report that the IDPs observed were originally displaced from eight states. The majority (2,729,777 IDPs, 75.79%) have been reportedly displaced from Khartoum state; followed by North Darfur (7.75%), South Darfur (7.12%), Central Darfur (4.09%), West Darfur (3.40%), South Kordofan (3.37%), North Kordofan (0.47%), Aj Jazirah (0.01%).

In addition to the internal displacement, the conflict in Sudan has caused the Mixed Cross-Border Movements of 1,040,883 individuals into neighbouring countries with 426,655 new arrivals recorded in Chad, 285,300 in Egypt, 231,070 in South Sudan, 76,330 in Ethiopia, 17,820 in the Central African Republic and 3,708 in Libya. 68% of arrivals tracked in those countries were Sudanese nationals and 32% estimated foreign nationals and returnees. The majority of arrivals were reported in Chad (41%), Egypt (27.4%), and South Sudan (22.2%).

The crisis in Sudan goes well beyond the humanitarian sphere and the response presents an extraordinary level of complexity with regards to access, safety, security, and conflict sensitivity. Since the onset of violence in April, Sudan has become one of the world’s most dangerous and difficult places for humanitarians to work, with 19 aid workers killed in 17 attacks in 2023. Over 24.7 million people, roughly half of the population in Sudan, are in need of humanitarian aid and protection. IOM continues to work closely with partners across the various workstreams and is actively engaged in the access working group and in the establishment of humanitarian hubs and cross-border operations. Urgent funding is needed in Sudan and neighboring countries to meet the increasing needs, to support those unable to flee from areas where active conflict continues, those who have been displaced in Sudan and those crossing into neighboring countries, including returnees and migrants in urgent need of onward transportation and relocation assistance.
SITUATION REPORT - AUGUST 2023

SOUTH SUDAN

As of 22 August, 8 containers containing relief items (including hygiene kits and medical items) for distribution through the pipeline mechanism were cleared by the Sudan customs and delivered to IOM warehouses in Port Sudan. In addition to the seven Rapid Response Fund sub-grants recently completed in the states of the Red Sea, Gedaref, White Nile, and South Darfur, 13 are underway in the states of the Red Sea, Kassala, Khartoum, Al Jazirah, White Nile, South Kordofan, North Darfur, South Darfur, and West Darfur. The activities covered by the sub-grants include WASH support, health and protection assistance, NFI distribution, and cash-based interventions.

Since the beginning of the conflict, IOM has provided medical assistance as well as MHPSS support to 21,735 individuals through 4 health facilities in Northern and Blue Nile states, and Abyei, as well as through mobile outreach to hard-to-reach communities and its Migrant Resource and Response Centers (MRRCs) located in Gedaref and Kassala. In addition, MRRCs have provided protection assistance to a total of 5,378 individuals, through awareness-raising sessions on safe migration, gender-based violence, psychological first aid (PFA), counter-trafficking, art therapy, and psychoeducation. In addition, IOM provided cash for protection assistance to 390 migrants and IDPs to cover medical, food, and transportation needs in the Red Sea and Gedaref state. Moreover, 15,265 migrants and IDPs benefitted from NFI kits in the Blue Nile, Gedaref, North Darfur, North and South Kordofan states, and 18,020 benefitted from hygiene kits in the Red Sea, Northern and South Kordofan states. 1,100 households in the Red Sea state also received multipurpose cash assistance to help them meet their basic needs.

Since 15 April, 50 stranded migrants have received voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance to their country of origin, while 37 migrants received consular (pre-departure) assistance. Additionally, IOM is currently supporting the resettlement of a group of refugees from Port Sudan to Canada, through Jeddah (Saudi Arabia). In partnership with Sudanese Organization for Development (SOD), IOM has also provided legal assistance to 38 migrants in vulnerable situations in Kassala, Gedaref and Port Sudan states, and is now extending those services to IDPs as well.

As of 20 August, 231,070 individuals have been recorded as arriving in South Sudan from Sudan (16,198 Sudanese, and 214,872 non-Sudanese). Wunthow/Juda, near Renk, Upper Nile State, continues to be the point of entry for most new arrivals to South Sudan.

During the past week protection staff identified a total of 2,444 individuals in households with one or more vulnerable household members. IOM Protection teams supported vulnerable individuals with referrals to services including 52 individuals in Renk, 61 individuals in Northern and Western Bahr el Ghazal, and 7 individuals in Malakal. Committed to mainstreaming PSEA principles throughout its

RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN

SUDAN OPERATIONAL MAP

This map is for illustrative purposes only. Names and Boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

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SOUTH SUDAN

8,247 individuals reached through PSEA awareness sessions

2,307 individuals reached with MHPSS assistance

1,800 litres of water provided to returnees and refugees
As of 18 August, 426,655 individuals have been observed crossing the border from Sudan into Chad as a result of the ongoing crisis in Sudan. IOM Chad’s DTM teams, in coordination with the National Commission for the Reception and Reintegration of Refugees and Returnees (CNARR) and partners, have, to date, registered 39,117 returnees. As part of its multisectoral response, IOM Chad has thus far reached a total of 32,593 individuals. This includes 12,874 individuals supported with unconditional, unrestricted multipurpose cash assistance and 9,926 assisted through water trucking activities. IOM is also supporting extremely vulnerable households by distributing tarpaulins and jerrycans and has reached 14,762 and 5,528 people respectively through these activities. Given its extensive experience in supporting the needs of TCNs, IOM has begun the process of providing assistance to 9 TCNs from Ethiopia, South Sudan, Cameroon, and Sierra Leone to return to their countries of origin.

IOM has relocated 1,750 vulnerable returnees, of which 70% are children, living in fragile and inadequate conditions in the border town of Adré to the new site of Tongori. IOM is building transitional shelters, installing a water distribution system and emergency latrines, and coordinating the provision of protection services with UNFPA and UNICEF.

Additionally, at the interagency level, IOM supported WFP with food distributions reaching 3,000 returnees, bringing the total number of people reached through food distributions since the start of the crisis to 7,000 individuals – food distributions are set to continue over the next days.

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Based on updates shared by UNHCR and the National Commission for Refugees (CNR), a total of 17,820 individuals (5,189 households) were recorded as having arrived in the Am Dafock PoE, Vakaga prefecture, from Sudan as of 15 August. This includes 13,119 Sudanese asylum seekers and 4,701 Central African returnees. An estimated 71% of the total are women and girls. Amongst the asylum seekers, 1,510 were relocated to Birao by UNHCR and the local government, where a new site named Korsi is being implemented to host refugees.

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)**

The latest update on arrival figures from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dates to 2 August – with over 285,300 people (272,000 Sudanese, 6,000 Egyptian returnees, and 7,300 TCNs recorded as having crossed into Egypt from Sudan.

To date, IOM has reached approximately 29,517 people with direct assistance, VHR assistance, distribution of non-food items, and other assistance. As of 20 August, 38,336 individuals have been pre-registered, and 11,624 individuals have been registered for direct assistance. Out of those, 3,575 individuals have received assistance in the form of cash assistance, food vouchers, housing allowance, and medical assistance.

During the reporting period, IOM conducted 8 awareness raising and assessment sessions, 6 of them jointly with Plan International, for new arrivals from Sudan and host communities in Egypt. IOM presented its services and other available assistance to Sudanese new arrivals, while understanding the needs and concerns of the new arrivals and host community members. Challenges most frequently experienced by these groups in Egypt included high rents, high tuition costs in Sudanese community schools, the suspension of higher education (university and higher), high costs of health care, and unemployment due to lack of proper documentation.

**LIBYA**

As of 20 August, DTM Libya observed 3,708 arrivals (3,138 in Al Kufra, 500 in Om El Araneb, and 70 in Alqatroun) of Sudanese migrants and TCNs. This includes 2,758 Sudanese migrants, 1,557 of which arrived indirectly from Chad (987 in Al Kufra, 70 in Alqatroun, and 500 in Om El Araneb), and 1,201 of which arrived from Sudan directly via Northern State and North Darfur. Additionally, DTM also recorded the arrival of 600 Libyan returnees and 350 TCNs (275 Chadians, 31 Ethiopians, 16 Somalis, 9 Nigerians, 9 Eritreans, 6 Egyptians, 3 Nigerien, and 1 Burkinabe) from Sudan.

Given extreme vulnerabilities of migrants in the Al Kufra detention centre and following sustained engagement for access to the centre, IOM, in collaboration with UNHCR, has most recently conducted an anti-scabies campaign in the centre, reaching 560 migrants. In addition, IOM provided mattresses, and health support such as disinfectant and medication.

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