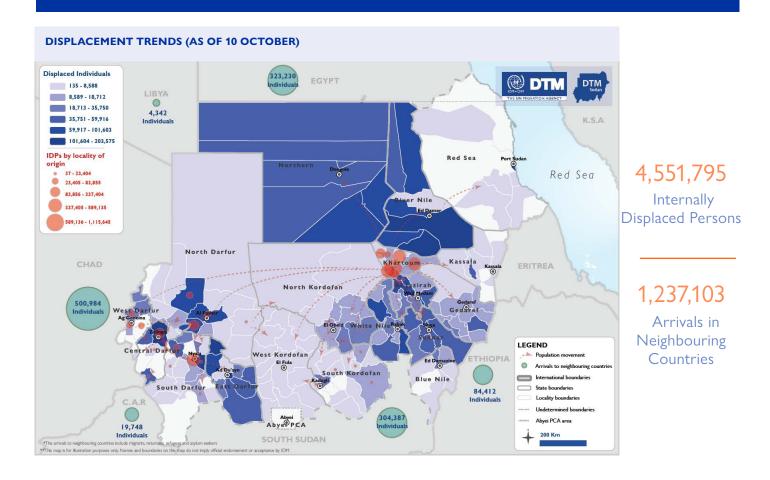


REGIONAL SUDAN RESPONSE SITUATION UPDATE 10 OCTOBER 2023

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's Revised 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.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

On Friday (6 October), Security Council members held their 17th annual joint consultative meeting with members of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting opened with a discussion on the situation in Sudan and regional ramifications of the crisis and called for peace and stability in the region. On 5 October, the Sudanese Foreign Minister rejected the draft resolution presented before the UN Human Rights Council's (HRC) 54th session in Geneva to establish an independent investigation mechanism to investigate human rights violations in Sudan. The draft was said to lack objectivity and fairness. Minister of Finance and Economic Planning reportedly confirmed reaching an understanding with international funding institutions to support the funding of essential services in Sudan (education, health, water and other basic services).

On 3 October, Lt. General al-Burhan met with representative of the National Mechanism to Support Democratic Civil Transition led by former Sovereignty Council member Aisha Musa. The mechanism's vision is to restore a peaceful, civil and democratic path in Sudan in consultation with national stakeholders. The leader of the National Umma Party <u>announced</u> a three-day visit to the United Arab Emirates to discuss ending the wat and support for the Jeddah process. Meanwhile, Kenyan President, William Ruto <u>met</u> with IGAD Executive Secretary to discuss a coordinated approach in supporting the resolution of the conflict in Sudan.

Heavy fighting and air strikes continue to be reported in Khartoum, Omdurman and Bahri without any indication of a possible cessation of hostilities; heavy shelling was reported in the residential neighbourhood of Omdurman. Fighting has also reportedly extended to





Medical check-up to identify children with acute malnutriction at IOM Mobile clinic in Wadi Halfa, Northern state © IOM Sudan 2023

neighbouring areas to Aj Jazirah State. In Darfur, the Armed Signatory Movements (ASM) are seeking to increase presence and mobilize further personnel in effort to protect civilians and aid the delivery of essential humanitarian assistance. Increased RSF mobilization efforts are also being reported around El Genina, West Darfur, where the situation remains tense with a possible renewal of fighting. In South Darfur, fighting between the warring parties continued, a situation further exacerbated by on-going inter-communal tensions between the Beni Halba and Salamat communities and heavy rains and flooding. In Central Darfur sporadic fighting was reported around Zalingei and Hassahissa IDP camp which continues to be impacted by RSF artillery fire. In North Kordofan, fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) was reported in El Obeid and in its proximity. In response to the RSF's claims over Wad Ashana last week, an increase of SAF deployments in Kosti and around the Rabak-Kosti bridge, White Nile were reported. In South Kordofan, clashes between SAF and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North/Al Hilu (SPLM-N/AH) also continued across various locations. IOM's DTM also reported attacks by the RSF on the El Fakharin village in Abassiya locality in South Kordofan, which has led to the displacement of nearly 280 households, most of which are currently sheltering in villages within the same locality.

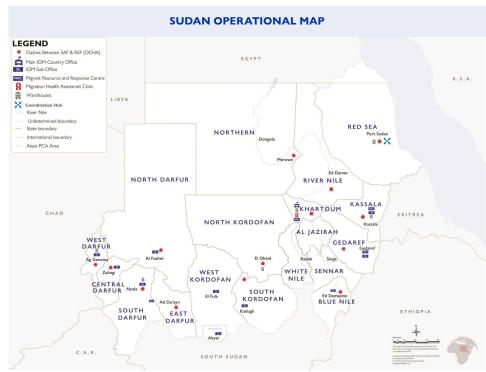
DTM Sudan estimates that 4,551,795 individuals (907,833 households) have been recently internally displaced. The IDP caseload has been observed in 4,647 locations across all of Sudan's 18 states. The highest proportions of IDPs have been observed in River Nile (12.66%), South Darfur (11.19%), East Darfur (11.01%), Aj Jazirah (8.07%), Northern (7.97%), and North Darfur (7.37%). Field teams report that the IDPs observed were originally displaced from 8 states. The majority (3,120,044 IDPs, 68.55%) have been reportedly displaced from Khartoum state; followed by South Darfur (14.58%), North Darfur (7.97%), Central Darfur (3.99%), West Darfur (3.75%), South Kordofan (0.72%), North Kordofan (0.43%), and Aj Jazirah (0.01%). DTM Sudan also estimates that approximately 2.63% of the IDP caseload are non-Sudanese nationals.

In addition to the internal displacement, the conflict in Sudan has caused the mixed cross-border movements of 1,237,103 individuals into neighbouring countries namely Egypt, Libya, Chad, Central African Republic, South Sudan and Ethiopia. 65% of arrivals tracked in those countries were Sudanese nationals and 35% estimated foreign nationals and returnees. The majority of arrivals were reported in Chad (40.5%), Egypt (26.1%), and South Sudan (24.6%).

The recent <u>statement</u> published by the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan, Ms. Clementine Nkweta-Salami, highlights Sudan as the world's fastest-growing displacement crisis. While outlining the complex and overlapping challenges faced by displaced and host populations, the statement highlighted the need for additional funding to continue the provision of critical assistance to affected populations.

RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN



42,726 individuals received hygiene kits

27,041 individuals provided MHPSS support

12,298 individuals received protection assistance

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

Since the conflict began on 15 April, a total of 75 containers with relief items have been received in IOM's new warehouse in Sudan and preparations are underway to distribute the items through IOM's common pipeline system. Through its decentralization approach, IOM is establishing and operating cross-border operations across the Egypt-Sudan border and Chad-Sudan border, on top of the delivery of relief items through Port Sudan – reinforcing IOM's capacities to cover the northern, eastern, and western regions of the country.

In addition to the 7 Rapid Response Fund sub-grants recently completed in the states of the Red Sea, Gedaref, White Nile, and South Darfur for the benefit of 172,465 individuals; 13 are underway in the states of the Red Sea, Kassala, Khartoum, Aj Jazirah, White Nile, South Kordofan, North Darfur, South Darfur, and West Darfur. The activities covered by the sub-grants include water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support, health and protection assistance, non-food items (NFI) distributions, and cash-based interventions (CBI). Since the beginning of the conflict, IOM has provided medical assistance as well as mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to 27,041 individuals through 8 health facilities (Northern and Blue Nile states, and Abyei), mobile outreach to hard-to-reach communities, and its two Migrant Resource and Response Centers (MRRCs) located in Gedaref and Kassala.

In addition, MRRCs have provided protection assistance to a total of 12,298 individuals so far, through awareness raising sessions on safe migration, gender-based violence (GBV), psychological first aid (PFA), counter-trafficking, art therapy, and psychoeducation. Since 15 April, 84 stranded migrants have received voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance to their country of origin, while 160 migrants received consular (pre-departure) assistance. Furthermore, in close collaboration with UNHCR, a total of 36 refugees have benefited from resettlement assistance from Sudan to Canada, and 3 from Sudan to the United States. 7 individuals have also been assisted to reunite with their families in the United Kingdom and Belgium.

In partnership with the Sudanese Organization for Development (SOD), IOM has provided legal assistance to 82 migrants in vulnerable situations in Kassala, Gedaref and Port Sudan states, and is now extending those services to IDPs. Among other things, IOM supports its beneficiaries' access to identity documents, provides legal counselling on housing/land/property rights, and provides its beneficiaries with representation in court.

Moreover, 16,040 migrants, IDPs and host community members in vulnerable situations benefitted from NFI kits in the Blue Nile, Gedaref, North Darfur, and North and South Kordofan states; and 1,990 individuals in extremely vulnerable situations were provided with food and NFI support in Kassala and Gedaref states through IOM's MRRCs. Another 1,850 households in the Red Sea state also received multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) to help them meet their basic needs.

To support the growing number of individuals in need of essential WASH services, IOM distributed handwashing stations, repaired handpumps, constructed showers and solar-powered water yard for the benefit of 12,380 crisis-affected individuals in 4 states (Gedaref, North Darfur, Northern and Blue Nile states). Finally, 42,726 individuals benefitted from the distribution of hygiene kits in the Red Sea, Northern, Gedaref, South Kordofan, and West Darfur states.

5,082 individuals provided MHPSS assistance

3,836 individuals identified by protection staff

246 individuals supported with telecom services

As of 8 October, 304,387 individuals have been recorded as arriving in South Sudan from Sudan (25,778 Sudanese and 278,609 non-Sudanese). Wunthow/Juda, near Renk, Upper Nile State, continues to be the point of entry (PoE) for most new arrivals to South Sudan. Returnee arrivals continue to report onward transportation assistance (OTA), food, shelter/NFIs, WASH, and health as their key priority needs.

IOM continues to scale up its health assistance to affected populations. Over the past week, IOM's MHPSS team supported 5,082 individuals, including people living with disabilities, with services such as psychological first aid, individual and group counseling, and recreational activities. Through its initiatives on primary healthcare, IOM conducted 2,918 medical consultations in Renk and 103 consultations in Wau, as well as provided health services to 132 new arrivals in Abyei.

IOM's WASH teams continue to provide access to safe drinking water for those impacted by the crisis. In Renk, IOM ensured the delivery of 1,110 m3 of clean drinking water at the water treatment plant and trucked 1060 m3 of clean water to the Renk transit centre (TC). Elsewhere in the country, IOM provided 480 litres of safe and clean drinking water at the Panakuach PoE in Unity state, supporting 208 individuals.

As part of its multisectoral response to returnee arrivals, protection staff identified 3,836 individuals in households with one or more vulnerable household members. During the reporting period, protection teams referred 579 individuals to partners and other units for support and other services. Given the specific protection concerns in Northern Bahr el-Ghazal (NBeG), IOM staff supported the fast tracking of 297 vulnerable individuals, ensuring their needs were met on a priority basis. Additionally, IOM's teams led capacity building sessions on GBV, PSEA, and disability inclusion. Attended by partners (World Vision International, International Rescue Committee (IRC), Advance Africa Initiative (ADAFIN), and Help Restore Youth (HeRY)), as well as social workers from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare, the team trained 81 individuals across Aweil Town, Majokinthou, and Gokmachar.

Given the high OTA needs in-country, IOM's S/NFI teams continue to support returnees with OTA assistance from the Panakuach PoE to Rotriak, complementing efforts by CCCM teams that facilitated telecom services for 246 returnees over both the aforementioned locations. However, IOM field teams have observed the increasing vulnerability of cases arriving at Panakuach, with high levels of malnourishment and chronic illnesses being reported amongst the elderly and in children under five. Cases also report incidences of physical violence, looting, and sexual harassment experienced on their journey to South Sudan.



IOM CCCM providing telecom services for beneficiaries communicating with families and friends in Panakuach © IOM South Sudan 2023



CHAD

15,000 individuals registered in Deguessa 6,580 individuals relocated to Tongori

The latest update on arrival figures dates to 8 October and records 500,984 individuals (423,657 Sudanese and 77,327 non-Sudanese) as having crossed the border from Sudan into Chad.

During the reporting period, IOM continued to develop and support returnee sites in Ouaddaï and Sila provinces, including the provision shelters, NFIs, WASH services, protection services, and MPCA, as well as the coordination the provision of essential services through various national and international partners. To date, 1,012 of the most vulnerable returnee households (6,580 individuals) were voluntarily relocated to the new site established by IOM in Tongori (Ouaddaï province) in coordination with authorities. Additional shelters will be constructed in Tongori over the coming weeks, aiming to reach a total of 2,500 households that will be settled in the site.

Additionally, IOM plans to extend the Deguessa returnee site (Sila province), where 15,000 returnees have been registered by IOM. Humanitarian partners, including UNICEF, LM International, Lutheran World Foundation (LWF), Concern Worldwide, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Holland, INTERSOS, WFP, and COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale, are providing or aiming to provide services including shelters, NFI kits, boreholes, WASH/hygiene kits and sensitization, food, mobile clinics, a community health center, midwife services, GBV referrals, child-friendly spaces, and educational support and spaces at IOM's site. As the next steps, IOM aims to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to 2,000 new households (approximately 12,000 individuals) across the two sites in Sila and Ouaddaï provinces.

Committed to addressing the needs of the most vulnerable, including TCNs, IOM is continuing to identify such nationals displaced from Sudan in eastern Chad, and assist those who wish to return to their home countries. IOM Chad is currently hosting 33 TCNs from Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, and Cameroon in its transit center in N'Djamena. Providing accommodation, food assistance, medical assistance, consular assistance for travel documents, return assistance, and petty cash, IOM has thus far assisted 14 TCNs to return to their home country.

While IOM and partners continue to deliver assistance in-country, additional funding is critically needed to ensure continued delivery of essential services to extremely vulnerable individuals and communities beyond December 2023.

ETHIOPIA

2,982
individuals reached through
health awareness raising
sessions

1,189
individuals benefited from
medical screenings conducted in
collaboration with EPHI

141
individuals registered for OTA assistance

The latest update on arrival figures dates to 8 October and records 84,412 individuals (30,401 Sudanese and 54,011 non-Sudanese) as having crossed the border from Sudan into Ethiopia.

To date, IOM Ethiopia continues to provide health, WASH, protection, and MHPSS assistance as part of its multisectoral response to the Sudan crisis. IOM continues to regularly test water quality to ensure safe drinking water for affected populations, and over the reporting period, delivered 138 m3 of clean water to the Metema PoE.

As part of its health response in Metema, IOM provided PFA to 134 individuals to address immediate psychosocial needs. Awareness raising sessions on protection were organized for 300 individuals, and 24 pregnant and lactating women and children were provided with NFIs and biscuits.

Recognizing the health risks at the Metema PoE, IOM conducted awareness-raising sessions on health-related issues, including cholera, reaching 2,982 individuals. In collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI), IOM conducted medical screenings at the PoE, benefiting 1,189 individuals.

IOM's Migration Response Centre (MRC) continues to be operational – to date, 37 lactating women. 66 unaccompanied minors, and 12 elders were identified and registered for direct assistance, while 141 returnee migrants registered for OTA assistance. With support from CCCM teams, 305 individuals received tailored information on available services and 273 individuals were assisted with translation support at the IOM information help desk. As part of its protection activities at the MRC, IOM most recently organized awareness raising sessions on protection, which were attended by 110 individuals; 90 individuals of this caseload were further assisted with protection services.

While IOM and partners continue to deliver assistance in Metema, challenges such as prolonged electricity outages, lack of adequate shelters, and shortage of basic services such as dignity kits, food, and clothes compound the vulnerabilities of those displaced by the crisis in Sudan.



Distribution of hygiene kits in Wadi halfa Northern State © IOM Sudan 2023

EGYPT

32,457 total number of people assisted 400 new individuals received hygiene kits

individuals reached through health and MHPSS awareness sessions

The latest update on arrival figures from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dates to 11 September – with 323,230 people (310,000 Sudanese, 6,000 Egyptian returnees, and 7,230 TCNs) as having crossed into Egypt from Sudan.

To date, IOM has reached 32,457 people with direct assistance, VHR assistance, distribution of non-food items, and other assistance. As of 8 October, 23,466 individuals have been pre-registered, and 44,157 individuals have been registered for direct assistance. Out of those, 4,638 individuals have received assistance in the form of cash assistance, food vouchers, housing allowance, and medical assistance.

As part of its multisectoral response in Aswan, IOM distributed 400 hygiene kits to new arrivals and conducted consultations and screening of cases of education grants, targeting 3 community schools in the area. Additionally, IOM's medical teams donated medical equipment and other items to the Mental Health Hospital in Aswan, as well as conducted awareness raising sessions. Aimed at increasing health and MHPSS awareness and having reached 54 individuals, the sessions enabled IOM's MHPSS teams to identify cases that required immediate assistance and facilitate the provision of urgent support for this caseload.

LIBYA

As of 8 October, DTM Libya observed 4,342 arrivals (3,765 in Al Kufra, 500 in Om El Araneb, and 77 in Algatroun) of Sudanese migrants and TCNs. This includes 3,271 Sudanese migrants, 1,577 of which arrived indirectly from Chad (1,000 in Al Kufra, 77 in Algatroun, and 500 in Om El Araneb), and 1,694 of which arrived from Sudan directly via Northern State and North Darfur. Additionally, DTM also recorded the arrival of 600 Libyan returnees and 471 TCNs (294 Chadians, 67 Ethiopians, 61 Somalis, 24 Eritreans, 9 Nigerians, 6 Egyptians, 6 Mauritians, 3 Nigerien and 1 Burkinabe) from Sudan.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

As of 2 October, a total of 19,748 individuals are recorded as having arrived in CAR since the beginning of the crisis in Sudan, with most having arrived in the Am Dafock PoE. This includes 15,047 Sudanese asylum seekers, and 4,701 returnees. Of the 19,748 recorded arrivals in the country, 1,935 were relocated from Am Dafock to Birao by UNHCR and the local government as of 25 September. As such, the government has instructed partners to concentrate on the response and humanitarian efforts in Birao, where IOM continues to strengthen its presence.

