REGIONAL SUDAN RESPONSE

SITUATION UPDATE 27 DECEMBER 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 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.

5.5 million*

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN SUDAN

1.5 million

ARRIVALS IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

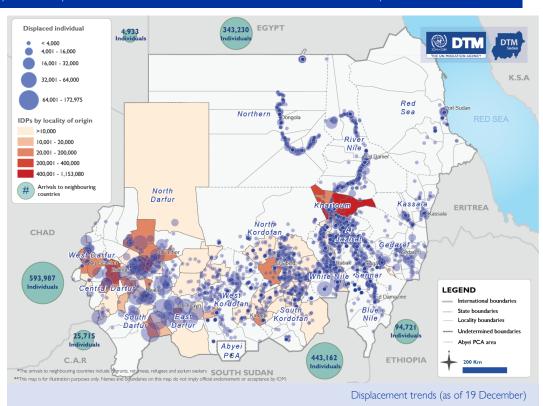
1.9 million

PEOPLE TARGETED IN SUDAN AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

USD 418 million

REQUIRED BY IOM TO SUPPORT AFFECTED POPULATIONS

*As of 19 December. A comprehensive monthly overview will be published by DTM with updated data ion 29 December.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Following the Rapid Support Forces' (RSF) advance on Wad Madani last week, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) announced on 18 December the forces' withdrawal from the city and the launch of an investigation to determine its circumstances. After the loss of Wad Madani to RSF, public discontent over Lt. Gen. Al Burhan is growing, with some calling for his replacement. Meanwhile, RSF announced the appointing of a former army officer as the commander in Wad Madani, pointing to a de facto control in Wad Madani and over Aj Jazirah state.

On 20 December, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk released a <u>statement</u> condemning the attacks on civilians in Wad Madani, speaking of the concerning reports of allegedly ethnically motivated attacks, lootings and mutilations. He further called on both SAF and RSF to respect international

humanitarian and human rights law. On 22 December, the Security Council <u>released</u> a press statement on the situation in Sudan, expressing alarm at the spreading of violence and deteriorating humanitarian situation, reiterating calls for the immediate cessation of hostilities, facilitated humanitarian access and end to the conflict. On 24 December, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) extended an <u>invitation</u> to both Lt. Gen. Al Burhan and Commander Hemedti to meet in Djibouti on 28 December to discuss a ceasefire and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian aid. It remains unclear whether the two warring parties have accepted the invitation in what is supposed to be the first face to face meeting since the start of the conflict.

As the conflict progresses, fighting continues across various areas of the country including Khartoum, Bahri, Omdurman,

CONTACTS



Returnees waiting for OTA in South Sudan. $\ \odot$ IOM South Sudan 2023

Darfur, Sennar, White Nile and Kordofan. RSF is reportedly increasing its presence in the south of the country, taking on both White Nile and Sennar states. The move to the south is also increasing fears of a potential expansion toward Eastern Sudan, with Gedaref being the next state to be targeted by RSF. In Sennar, a SAF offensive against RSF was reported, whilst in White Nile, many civilians are reportedly fleeing the state as RSF increases its presence. In Nyala, South Darfur, citizens took to the street to demonstrate against aerial bombardments, demanding their immediate cessations. In North Kordofan, SAF reportedly took control of RSF headquarters and in Central Darfur, clashes were reported between SRF and the Sudan Liberation Movement - Abdel Wahid (SLM-AW). On 20 December, Darfur Governor Minni Minawi alluded to the fact that the war in Sudan is orchestrated with the aim of creating a new map of the region, which includes Sudan and neighbouring countries. In the meantime, Sudan's civilians and youth are increasingly taking on arms in an effort to defend their communities and cities, raising fears of a deepening ethnic conflict.

As of 19 December, DTM Sudan estimates that 5,539,883 Individuals (1,102,332 households) have been recently internally displaced. The IDP caseload has been observed in 6,089 locations across all of Sudan's 18 states.

In addition to the internal displacement, the conflict in Sudan has caused the mixed cross border movements of 1,505,748 individuals (as of 19 December) into neighbouring countries namely: Egypt, Libya, Chad, Central African Republic, South Sudan and Ethiopia. 63% of arrivals tracked in those countries were Sudanese nationals and 37% estimated foreign nationals and returnees.

On 21 December the Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan released a press <u>statement</u> for the launch of <u>Sudan 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan</u> (HNRP). The plan advocates for 2.7 billion in funding and aims to address the most urgent and critical needs of 14.7 million people in Sudan, including those recently displaced by the conflict and those

already living in protracted displacement, refugees and host communities. IOM has launched its <u>Sudan Crisis and Neighbouring Countries Overview</u> for 2024 advocating for USD 307 million to reach 1.2 million refugees, returnees and third country nationals. IOM, in collaboration with other UN agencies and partners in Sudan, will continue to prioritize multi-sectoral life-saving assistance for the most vulnerable.

IOM RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN

550,070 INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED SINCE THE ONSET OF THE CRISIS







48,454 INDIVIDUALS

Since the conflict erupted on 15 April, IOM has assisted 550,070 crisis-affected individuals across Sudan. This assistance includes the distribution of emergency shelter and non-food items to 69,413 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. Additionally, another 31,618 individuals benefitted from the distribution of hygiene kits and another 299,951 individuals benefited from the provision of other WASH items in the Red Sea, Northern, Gedaref, South Kordofan, and West Darfur states.

IOM has provided emergency health assistance to 48,454 individuals and nutrition support to 1,181 individuals through 8 health facilities (Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, Northern and Sennar states, and Abyei PCA North), mobile outreach to hard-to-reach communities, and its two Migrant Resource and Response Centers (MRRCs) located in Gedaref and Kassala. Moreover, IOM has provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) to 3,256 displacement-affected individuals.

To support the growing number of individuals in need of essential WASH services, IOM also distributed handwashing stations, repaired handpumps, constructed showers and solar-powered water yard, and other emergency WASH services for the benefit of 57,850 crisis-affected individuals across Sudan.

IOM has also provided protection assistance to 35,658 individuals so far, 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. A total of 32,290 individuals

have received multi-purpose cash assistance, while IOM provided tailored in-kind assistance to 5,195 individuals in extremely vulnerable situations.

Another 854 individuals benefited so far from construction of community infrastructure (such as roads, markets, health and community centers) and 87 households have so far received livelihoods assistance.

Since April 15, 183 stranded migrants have received voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance to their country of origin, while six at-risk individuals received humanitarian transportation assistance within Sudan. In close collaboration with UNHCR, IOM also resettled 258 refugees from Sudan to Canada and the United States (US). Another 39 individuals have also been assisted to reunite with their families in Belgium, Canada, the United Kingdom and US respectively.

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.

SOUTH SUDAN

200,086 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED

17,876 INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED WITH OTA ASSISTANCE

1,791 INDIVIDUALS REACHED WITH MHPSS

As of 18 December, 443,162 individuals have been recorded as arriving in South Sudan from Sudan (68,590 Sudanese and 374,572 non-Sudanese).

Since the start of the crisis, 200,086 individuals have been assisted by IOM in South Sudan. The overall movement at all border flow monitoring points is still increasing due to the ongoing conflict in areas of Darfur and Kordofan (North and South), and in Aj Jazirah states in Sudan. South Sudan DTM and teams deployed at PoEs have registered and conducted verifications for 8,660 new arrivals, and identified 5,030 vulnerable individuals to access services as priority.

In the past week, onward transportation assistance (OTA) was provided to 17,876 individuals, by boat (5,106 by boat vouchers) from Renk to Malakal, by IOM chartered flights (2,533 on 41 flights) from Renk to Malakal, and by road (10,237 by buses) from Joda border crossing to Renk.

IOM supported 1,791 individuals over the past week with MHPSS assistance, psychological support, and referrals. As part of its broader health response, IOM assisted 20,531 individuals



MHPSS in Abyei for the new arrivals.. © IOM SUDAN 2023

with primary healthcare in health facilities and mobile clinics. IOM provided vaccination and immunization services for 7,301 children and adults. To further ensure all of IOM's initiatives are equitable and responsible, IOM provided information on PSEA, referrals, and available services to 7,205 individuals.

IOM continues to deliver humanitarian relief, recovery and peace building services and remains one of the largest service providers in Abyei. Access constraints due to terrain in the rainy season and unpredictable security situation together with shortage of resources to sustain effective operations remain key challenges.

The recent takeover of Wad Madani in Sudan by the RSF has caused the displacement of around 300,000 people so far, with some transiting across the border through Renk border crossing point and subsequently onward to Bulukat transit center (TC). During the last week alone, 12 boats with new arrivals have reached the TC. IOM continues to monitor the situation and is increasing the number of chartered flights to avoid congestion in the TC.

CHAD

78,308 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED

43,358 INDIVIDUALS BENIFITTING FROM WASH SERVICES

As of 17 December, 593,987 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Chad from Sudan (484,626 Sudanese and 109,361 non-Sudanese).

IOM DTM has completed biometric registration in Tongori site and is planning implementation in other sites in 2024, pending funding. IOM is continuing to identify vulnerable returnee households in Ouaddaï and Sila provinces on an ongoing basis. IOM has registered 93,452 Chadian returnees (67% children) and estimates that the total returnee

population in Chad is as high as 109,361. To date, IOM has reached 78,308 individuals in those sites, including 29,287 with MPCA, 11,296 with transitional shelter and 40,402 with NFIs.

Over the reporting period, IOM continued to provide on-the-ground support to food distributions by WFP in returnee sites and distributed 1,369 NFI/WASH kits in Adré and Tongori (Ouaddaï) and in Goz Achiyé site (Sila).

IOM has started to construct 795 new transitional shelters in Tongori, and has completed 1,050 shelters in Deguessa so far. IOM continues to coordinate WASH services in Tongori and Deguessa, with partners including UNICEF, MSF, Concern Worldwide, LWF and LMI, which are benefitting 43,358 individuals on the supported sites and from host communities.

Protection activities are being conducted in the different sites, including development of a referral system, regular meetings with site committees and sensitizations on GBV, MHPSS and other protection issues.

The arrival rates of Chadian returnees continue to rapidly increase in regions bordering Darfur; IOM estimates the number of Chadian returnees to rise to 170,000 and number of TCNs to 500 by the end of March 2024, with urgent needs for services including education, health care, shelter, and protection. Investments in transition, stabilization and livelihood need to start, particularly on returnees' sites.

ETHIOPIA

511 INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED THROUGH MRCs

1,667 MHPSS SERVICES PROVIDED

As of 17 December, 94,721 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Ethiopia from Sudan (37,112 Sudanese and 57,609 non-Sudanese). During the last week, DTM reports that 2,604 individuals have crossed the border into Ethiopia through the Metema PoE (1,919 refugees, 678 returnees and 68 TCNs); IOM has facilitated the movement of 129 individuals from the PoE to the transit camp, a threefold increase since previous week. Inlows of Sudanese migrants has significantly increase mainly due to the resumption of immigration services by Sudanese immigration and to the escalation of fighting in Sudan, particularly in Aj Jazirah state.

As part of its health and nutrition response at Metema, IOM provided MHPSS services to 1,667 individuals. To mitigate the

increasing health risks at the Metema PoE, IOM conducted medical consultations for 583 individuals and, in collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI), conducted 2,950 medical screenings at the PoE, with top three conditions being upper respiratory tract infection, acute febrile illness and acute gastroenteritis. In addition, a total of 524 returnees, refugees and TCNs were screened for malnutrition, with one case of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and one of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) identified and assisted. Pre-departure medical screenings were conducted for 435 individuals.

At IOM's Migration Response Centre (MRC), 511 individuals have been assisted (34% minors), out of which 16 were assisted to return to their areas of origin. 534 Ethiopian returnees received OTA assistance, 283 towards Addis Ababa and 251 towards Gondar town.

The security situation at the border and in the Amhara region remains tense, causing movement restrictions which are likely to persist in 2024. This situation is complicating provision of humanitarian services, including OTA assistance due to movement restrictions imposed by armed groups, prolonging the stay of returnees in MRCs and straining already limited resources available.

EGYPT

40,247 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED

10,048 INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED WITH CBI

The latest update on arrival figures from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dates to 19 October, and records more than 343,230 individuals (330,000 Sudanese, 6,000 Egyptian returnees, and 7,230 TCNs) as having crossed into Egypt from Sudan.

To date, IOM Egypt has assisted a total of 40,247 individuals, of which 10,048 have received cash-based interventions (MPCA, housing and education). As of 18 December, 46,331 Sudanese migrants have been pre-registered, and 47,078 individuals have been registered for direct assistance.



LIBYA

As of 25 December, DTM Libya observed 5,181 arrivals (3,992 in Al Kufra, 500 in Om El Araneb, and 689 in Algatroun) of Sudanese migrants and TCNs, marking an increase of 249 new arrivals from the previous week. This includes 4,110 Sudanese migrants, 2,201 of which arrived indirectly from Chad (1,012 in Al Kufra, 689 in Algatroun, and 500 in Om El Araneb), and 1,909 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.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBIC

As of 18 December, a total of 25,836 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 (an estimated 88% of which are women and children). This includes 21,135 Sudanese asylum seekers, and 4,701 returnees. Of the total number of recorded arrivals, 2,588 were relocated from Am Dafock to Birao (Korsi site) by UNHCR and local authorities, or by their own efforts. IOM continues to strengthen its presence in Birao, including through provision of psychological first aid to 300 returnees and 185 refugees, conducting two capacity-building workshops for 61 members of the Birao community protection network, and distributing dignity kits to 235 women. IOM has assisted a total of 1,109 individuals so far.

CURRENT RESPONSE DONORS:























