

IOM calls on all parties to ensure the safety of humanitarian workers 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

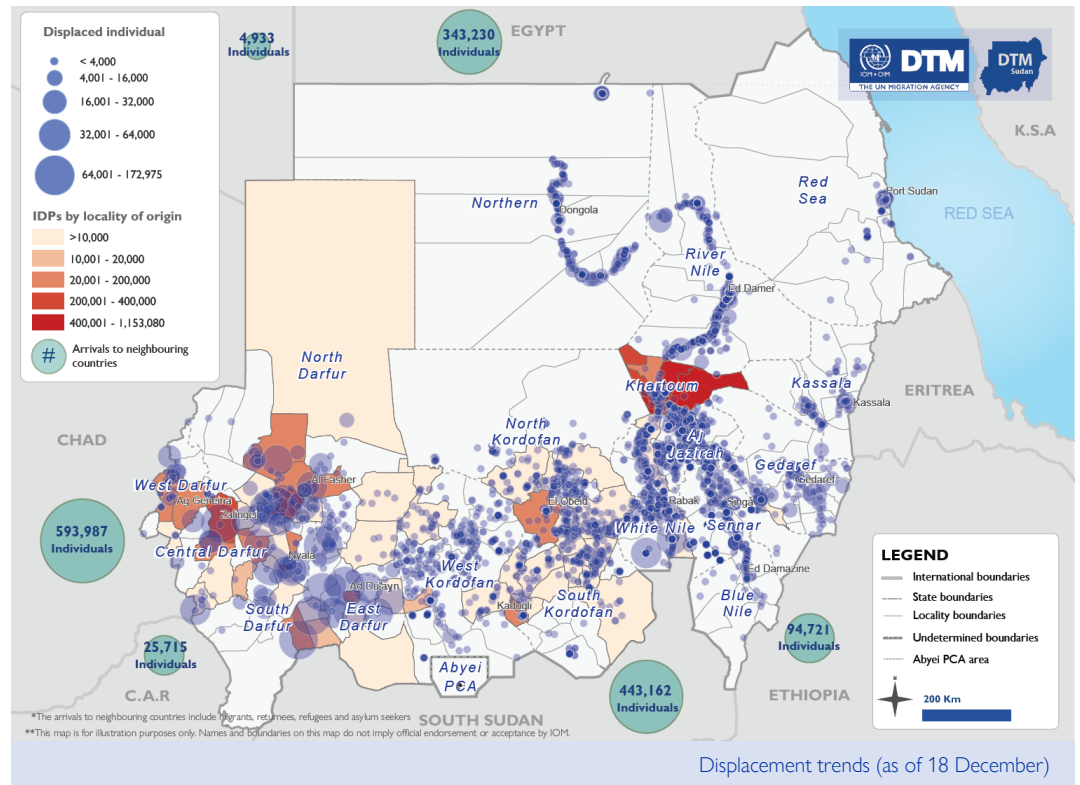
ARRIVALS IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

1.9 million

PEOPLE TARGETED IN SUDAN AND NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES

USD 418 million

REQUIRED BY IOM TO SUPPORT AFFECTED POPULATIONS



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Heavy fighting continues without any signs of a ceasefire across Khartoum, Omdurman, Bahri and the rest of the country. The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF)'s intention continues to be to fight until the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) are defeated, projecting their own victory. Meanwhile, RSF advanced on the city of Wad Madani (Aj Jazirah state), the “breadbasket” of Sudan located 136 kilometers southeast of Khartoum, opening up a new battle front for the conflict. RSF has [expressed](#) its commitment to “safeguarding the security and welfare of all residents, with a particular focus on Wad Madani”, in an effort to eradicate those who pose a significant threat to the security and stability of Sudan and the region. Prior to the RSF attack, Aj Jazirah state was [hosting](#) over 499,620 IDPs, most of which had fled Khartoum. As of 18 December, [DTM reports](#) that since the escalation of the conflict in Wad Madani on 15

December, at least 250,000 to 300,000 IDPs have fled the state through Sennar to reach Gedaref, Kassala and Blue Nile. Many of those fleeing are displacing for the second or third time since the conflict started and have had to resort to fleeing by foot due to the scarcity of available transportation options. It is not excluded that many will continue their journeys to Renk, South Sudan, in search of safety, leading to a potential spike in influxes into South Sudan.

Martin Griffith, Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, [called](#) for the end of the war in Sudan amid the fighting spreading to Wad Madani. On 16 December, the US Department of State released a [statement](#) urging the RSF to cease their advance in Aj Jazirah state immediately and to refrain from attacking Wad Madani, urging both warring parties to refrain from actions that would

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endanger civilians. The statement further speaks to the importance of Wad Madani as a safe haven for displaced civilians and hub for important humanitarian relief efforts. On 18 December, the African Union Commission (AUC) Chairperson released a [statement](#) expressing the growing concern at the deteriorating security situation in Sudan renewing calls to immediately cease hostilities and participate meaningfully in negotiations towards building and sustaining peace.

On 18 December, the President of the Human Rights Council, Václav Bálek, has [announced](#) the appointment of Mohamed Chande Othman of Tanzania, Joy Ezeilo of Nigeria and Mona Rishmawi of Jordan/Switzerland to serve as the three independent members of the new *Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan*. The Fact-Finding Mission as established through resolution [A/HRC/RES/54/2](#), “to investigate and establish the facts, circumstances and root causes of all alleged human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law...between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, as well as other warring parties.”

Fighting between the RSF and SAF was also [reported](#) in West Kordofan, Nyala, [South Darfur](#), and EL Fasher, [North Darfur](#). Of particular importance renewed clashes in El Fasher on 16 December, as the capital of North Darfur remains the only one not under the control of the RSF in Darfur. Over the last couple of weeks, reports indicated movements and increased presence of allied armed groups around the city to enforce the protection of civilians in view of an imminent attack by RSF.

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.

The highest proportions of IDPs have been observed across South Darfur (13%), East Darfur (12%), River Nile (11%), Aj Jazirah (9%), and North Darfur (8%). Field teams reported that the IDPs were reportedly displaced from eleven states. The majority (3,540,870, 64%) have been reportedly displaced from Khartoum state; followed by South Darfur (17%), North Darfur (9%), Central Darfur (4%), West Darfur (3%), East Darfur (1%), South Kordofan (1%), North Kordofan (1%), West Kordofan (<1%), White Nile (<1%), and Aj Jazirah (<1%).

In addition to the internal displacement, the conflict in Sudan has caused the mixed cross border movements of **1,505,748** individuals 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. The majority of arrivals were reported in Chad (40%), South

Sudan (30%), and Egypt (23%).

Eight months into the conflict and despite regional and international mediation efforts, the fighting continues across the country with new war fronts opening up and potential further deterioration of the situation. Sudan already hosts the largest number of IDPs globally, with numbers increasing on a weekly basis whilst many also continue to flee across borders. Over [17.7 million people](#) are acutely food insecure, with 4.9 million experiencing emergency levels of hunger. Cholera cases continue to rise, and insecurity, looting and bureaucratic impediments continue to affect the delivery of humanitarian aid. The regional impact of the war in Sudan and rising tensions with neighbouring countries, especially [Chad](#), risk jeopardizing the stability of the region further. There is an urgent need for a ceasefire to ensure the protection of civilians, unhindered humanitarian access and scale up of investments in cross-border capacities to respond to the increasing needs amid possible new influxes and tensions.

IOM RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN

549,013 INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED SINCE THE ONSET OF THE CRISIS



2,999 INDIVIDUALS



48,227 INDIVIDUALS

Since the conflict erupted on 15 April, IOM has assisted 549,013 crisis-affected individuals across Sudan. This assistance includes the distribution of emergency shelter and non-food items to 70,893 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 48,227 individuals and nutrition support to 1,137 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 2,999 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 households 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 received livelihoods assistance.

Since April 15, 165 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 237 refugees from Sudan to Canada and the United States. Another 35 individuals have also been assisted to reunite with their families in Belgium, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States.

In addition, through the Rapid Response Fund mechanism, IOM's partners have reached 392,249 direct beneficiaries and in Sudan with ES/NFI, WASH, Health, FSL and Protection interventions so far.

SOUTH SUDAN

189,849 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED

15,791 INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED WITH OTA ASSISTANCE

5,656 INDIVIDUALS VACCINATED

As of 17 December, 443,162 individuals have been recorded as arriving in South Sudan from Sudan (68,590 Sudanese and 374,572 non-Sudanese), an increase of 10,362 individuals from last reporting.

Since the start of the crisis, 189,849 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) states in Sudan. Increased armed clashes in Kordofan region of Sudan has further raised concerns about



NFI distribution to communities in Wadi Halfa, Sudan. © IOM SUDAN 2023

deterioration of security situation in the immediate neighbourhood of Abyei in the North which may potentially result in humanitarian implications for Abyei including an increased influx of arrivals. South Sudan DTM and teams deployed at PoEs have registered and conducted verifications for 11,481 new arrivals, and registered 781 vulnerable individuals to access services as priority.

In the past week, onward transportation assistance (OTA) was provided to 15,791 individuals, by boat (5,456 by boat vouchers) from Renk to Malakal, by IOM chartered flights (2,935) from Renk to Malakal, and by road (7,400) from Joda border crossing to Renk.

IOM supported 1,792 individuals over the past week with MHPSS assistance, psychological support, and referrals. As part of its broader health response, IOM assisted 5,269 individuals with primary healthcare in health facilities and mobile clinics, and referred 81 cases. IOM provided vaccination and immunization services for 5,656 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 6,349 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.

Fighting in Sudan is being reported closer to the border, near the town of Kersana, blocking returnees' access to Panakuach route and forcing them to cross through different front lines and check points of SAF and RSF. Moreover, the recent attacks on Wad Madani, in Aj Jazirah state of Sudan, has caused the displacement of around 300,000 people so far, with some transiting across the border through Renk border crossing point. The situation continues to be monitored by IOM.

CHAD

78,253 TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED

4,338 INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING MPCA

As of 17 December, 593,987 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Chad from Sudan (484,626 Sudanese and 109,361 non-Sudanese), a significant increase of 38,732 individuals since last reporting period.

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 78,253 individuals in those sites, including 29,287 with MPCA, 11,296 with transitional shelter and 39,149 with NFIs.

Over the reporting period, IOM continued to provide on-the-ground support to food distributions by WFP in returnee sites; distributed MPCA to 672 households (4,338 individuals) in Tongori and Guilané, and distributed tarpaulins and NFI kits to 8,665 vulnerable individuals in Goz Achiyé site, Sila province.

IOM is preparing to construct 790 new transitional shelters in Tongori, in addition to the 1,303 already constructed (including 170 through its partner ACTED). Construction of one borehole has been completed in Tongori host community and is coordinating construction of 3 boreholes and 25 latrines in Deguessa (implemented by Concern Worldwide and LMI respectively). Water and sanitation interventions are benefitting 42,003 individuals on the supported sites and from host communities.

Protection activities are being conducted in the different sites, including regular meetings with site committees and sensitizations on GBV, MHPSS and other protection issues, and sensitization sessions on PSEA for IOM's partners. 153 people with specific protection needs have been assisted with tailored cash and NFI assistance in Deguessa.

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. While IOM and partners continue to deliver assistance in-country, increased donor support is urgently needed in Chad to ensure continued assistance to affected populations, including the host communities, beyond December 2023 and to respond to the continued influx of returnees.

ETHIOPIA

218 INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED THROUGH MRCs

1,157 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 267 individuals have crossed the border into Ethiopia through the Metema PoE (78 refugees, 166 returnees and 23 TCNs); IOM has facilitated the movement of 43 individuals from the PoE to the transit camp. In addition, 200 refugees in the transit camp were relocated to the Kumer refugee camp, decongesting the over-crowded transit camp by 10%.

Inflows for Sudanese is anticipated to increase in the coming weeks mainly due to the resumption of immigration services by Sudanese immigration. In addition, escalation of fighting in Sudan, particularly in Aj Jazirah state, is expected to increase the influx into Ethiopia, primarily through the Metema PoE, and potentially at Benshagul Gumuz Kurmuk PoE. IOM is supporting the WASH conditions in both Metema and Benshagul Gumuz Kurmuk PoEs, through water trucking, water quality tests, hygiene promotion and construction of latrines.

As part of its health and nutrition response at Metema, IOM provided MHPSS services to 1,157 individuals, and 67 individuals received sexual and reproductive health services. To mitigate the increasing health risks at the Metema PoE, IOM conducted medical consultations for 472 individuals and, in collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI), conducted 386 medical screenings at the PoE. In addition, a total of 186 returnees, refugees and TCNs, and 11 from the host communities were screened for malnutrition, with one case of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) identified and assisted.

At IOM's Migration Response Center (MRC), 218 individuals have been assisted to return to their areas of origin, and IOM

is assisting six TCNs to return to their countries of origin.

181 Ethiopian returnees received OTA assistance, all towards Gondar town. IOM also facilitated the movement of 237 Eritrean refugees from Kumer camp and the transit camp to Addis Ababa to process their resettlement case and facilitate their departure to Canada.

The security situation at the border and in the Amhara region remains tense, leading to insecurity and escalation of communal tension. 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.

Over the past week, IOM has distributed 1,660 hygiene kits, 499 food boxes, 249 baby kits to approximately 1,000 to the

migrants in Alexandria. For the commemoration of the International Migrants' Day, IOM hosted an event in Alexandria for 500 newly arrived migrants, with 500 food and 100 dignity kits distribution. On 18-19 December, IOM is conducting a training for 30 doctors in Aswan on migration health and inclusion of migrants, with a focus on care for newly arrived migrants in the public health system.

LIBYA

As of 18 December, DTM Libya observed 4,932 arrivals (3,973 in Al Kufra, 500 in Om El Araneb, and 459 in Algatroun) of Sudanese migrants and TCNs. This includes 3,861 Sudanese migrants, 1,971 of which arrived indirectly from Chad and 1,890 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 Mauritanian, 3 Nigerien and 1 Burkinabe) from Sudan.

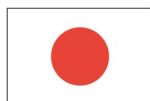
CENRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

As of 11 December, a total of 25,715 individuals are still 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 21,014 Sudanese asylum seekers, and 4,701 returnees. Of the total number of recorded arrivals, 2,467 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 sensitization campaigns for the refugees, working with authorities and communities on protection issues, providing PFA (300 returnees and 185 refugees reached), and distributing dignity kits to women (235 reached). A total of 1,109 individuals have been reached so far with assistance provided by IOM.

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