



Distribution of non-food items to crisis-affected communities in Shendi, River Nile state. ©IOM SUDAN 2023

## HIGHLIGHTS

In response to the armed conflict that erupted in April 2023, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) remains committed to stay and help the people of Sudan. During the past week, we have:

- Distributed 1,000 non-food items (NFI) kits in Shendi locality (River Nile state) and 1,000 NFI kits in Wadi Halfa locality (Northern state), reaching approximately 10,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) within the two states.
- Deployed a mobile clinic to Hasshisa locality to provide medical assistance to IDPs and host community members, and supported another mobile clinic specifically targeting migrants in Greater Wad Medani (Aj Jazirah state).
- Installed 68 solar LED lights in 18 IDP gathering sites benefitting 10,000 IDPs in Greater Wad Medani locality.
- Distributed 900 hygiene kits to 5,400 IDPs residing in seven gathering sites, and installed 8 handwashing stations benefitting roughly 4,000 IDPs in Sesar IDP camp within in Greater Wad Medani locality.
- Published the 13<sup>th</sup> [Weekly Displacement Snapshot](#) by IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) with insights into those displaced since 15 April 2023.
- Concluded 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) with events in Sinkat and Port Sudan localities (Red Sea). More than 500 IDPs and host community members attended the festivities and information sessions.
- Organized awareness raising sessions on GBV, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and safe migration reaching 353 displaced persons across six IDP gathering sites in White Nile state.
- Participated in an appreciation ceremony organized by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada in Rome recognizing IOM’s refugee resettlement efforts and for reaching the departure targets from Sudan despite the ongoing conflict.

**With the highest number of internally displaced people globally, the situation in Sudan is dire. Urgent action is needed to reach ALL in need.**

## KEY FIGURES



**24.7 million**  
PEOPLE IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN SUDAN

**7,071,675**  
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs)  
(AS OF AUGUST 2023)

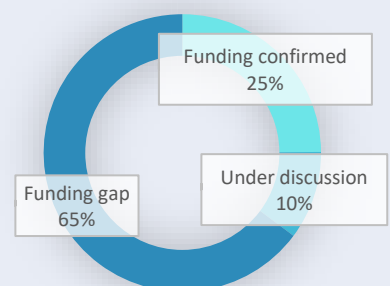
**5,424,772**  
DISPLACED WITHIN SUDAN (SINCE 15 APRIL 2023)

**1,456,077**  
CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS RECORDED  
(SINCE 15 APRIL 2023)

**537,397**  
PEOPLE REACHED IN SUDAN

**18**  
STATES REACHED IN ADDITION TO ABYEI PCA

## FUNDING (AS OF 17 DECEMBER 2023)



Your donation can help provide life-saving aid such as food, water, shelter, and medical supplies to those who need it the most. Every little helps.

[DONATE NOW](#)

# OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

After eight months of conflict, food remains a primary concern of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Sudan. Most (75%) IDPs report that [food is available but unaffordable](#) in the markets. Food insecurity has reached a record high in Sudan, with 37% of the population (17.7 million people) facing [high acute food insecurity](#). WFP warns of [catastrophic hunger](#) in conflict hotspots by the time lean season arrives in May 2024.

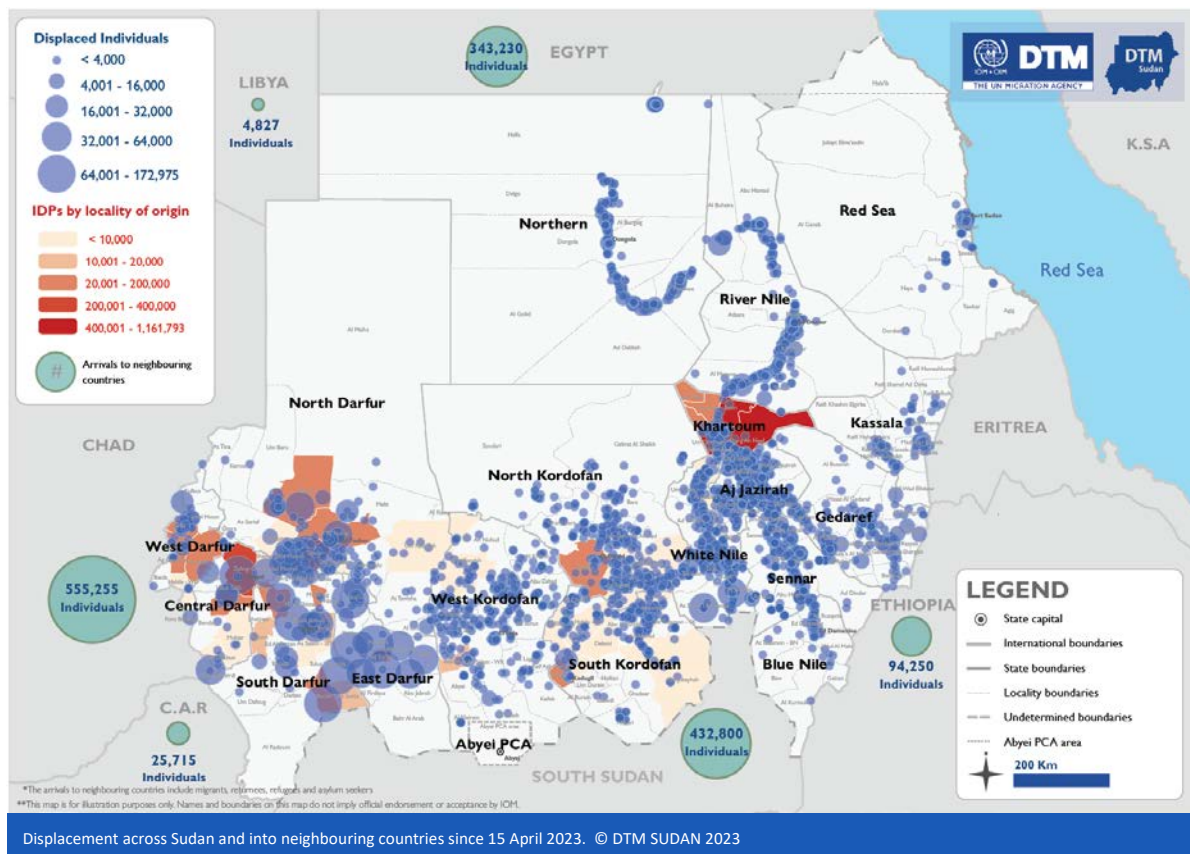
## SITUATION

The conflict that broke out on 15 April 2023 between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudanese Armed Force (SAF) continues to have devastating consequences for millions of civilians in Sudan. More than [12,000 people have been killed](#) and half of the population (24.7 million people) estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. At the end of August 2023, Sudan hosted approximately 7.1 million IDPs, including 3.9 million displaced by the ongoing conflict and 3.2 million IDPs in protracted displacement pre-April 2023. Sudan is now facing the world's largest internal displacement crisis with [more than 5.4 million people](#) displaced to 5,939 locations across all 18 states in the last eight months alone, in addition to the pre-existing IDP caseload.

Clashes have had a severe impact on civilians, with reports of widespread human rights violations, forced displacement, and killings. All forms of gender-based violence (GBV) are increasing and the number of [people in need of GBV services has risen](#) to over 4 million. Women and girls who are displaced, in transit, in temporary shelters, and awaiting visas at border crossings are at extremely high risk of sexual violence. The GBV Sub-cluster warns the GBV survivors are facing life-threatening consequences such as strong suicidal tendencies.

Shortages of other basic goods such as water, medicines, and fuel have become extremely acute across the country as a result of the disruption of normal trade routes and limited access, prices have dramatically increased, making it unaffordable for many people to meet their basic needs. This is further exacerbated by the recent collapse and slow recovery of banking and financial services, frequent interruptions to internet, telecommunications and electricity supply, and destruction of health facilities. The health sector is collapsing due to repeated attacks, looting and occupation of medical facilities and hospitals. Sudan is facing multiple outbreaks of cholera, dengue, malaria and measles. The number of suspected [cholera cases increased](#) to 5,414, including 170 associated deaths, across 46 localities.

The deteriorating situation in Sudan also has dramatic implications on neighbouring countries, many of which are grappling with their own protracted crises. Sudan shares borders with seven countries, spanning three regions, and is an important migration country at the intersection between countries in East and Horn of Africa and Libya and Egypt, along the Central Mediterranean route, as well as for migrants heading towards the Gulf, via the Northern route. Since the outbreak of the crisis, over 1.4 million people have [fled into neighbouring countries](#) – namely Chad (38.7%), South Sudan (28.5%) and Egypt (24.2%). Approximately 64% of arrivals tracked in those countries were Sudanese nationals and [36% were returnees and third country nationals](#) (TCNs).





# OPERATIONAL UPDATES

## DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) [tracks, monitors and analyses](#) displacement and population mobility to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations across all states in Sudan.

Since 15 April, DTM has published 18 situation reports, 13 weekly displacement snapshots, 3 monthly displacement overviews, 118 early warning flash reports and 33 datasets that can be found [here](#).

## SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

IOM has distributed emergency shelter (ES) and non-food items (NFI) to 65,695 people in Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, Gedaref, Kassala, North Darfur, North Kordofan, Red Sea and South Kordofan states since the conflict erupted.

As part of IOM's common pipeline mechanism, 106 containers with relief items have been received in Port Sudan. The items are being delivered to humanitarian partners for distributions across Sudan.

## WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

Since 15 April, IOM has reached 389,166 people through WASH interventions, including distributions of hygiene kits and other WASH supplies, construction and rehabilitation of water points and sanitation facilities, in addition to hygiene and garbage collection campaigns in Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, Gedaref, Kassala, Khartoum, North Darfur, Northern, Red Sea, South and West Kordofan states.

## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

IOM has provided primary health services and specialized healthcare to 48,017 people in IDP and refugee camps and gathering sites, reception and transit centres, at points of entry and key migration routes, and host communities since the conflict began. The assistance is provided through eight static health facilities, four mobile clinics, two MRRCs, and a Migration Health Assessment Centre in Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, Gedaref, Kassala, Northern, Red Sea and White Nile states as well as Abyei PCA.

IOM also provides capacity building to community healthcare workers and midwives, as well as conducts community-level health promotion and awareness raising about health risks.

## MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

IOM has so far reached 3,022 people with psychological first aid (PFA) and other MHPSS services in 16 states. The assistance includes group and individual counselling, psychoeducational sessions on stress management, and referrals to specialized care.

## FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS (FSL)

IOM is currently supporting community-led agriculture initiatives for winter cropping and other income-generating activities in Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile and Gedaref states targeting 600 households.

As part of its Protection assistance, IOM also provided food support to 3,308 migrants in extremely vulnerable situations.

## CASH-BASED INTERVENTIONS (CBI)

To increase the ability of crisis-affected communities to meet their basic needs in a way that is most suited to their preferences, IOM has provided cash assistance to 32,290 households in Sudan. IOM also provides grants to community-based organizations (CBOs) as seed funding for livelihoods and other life-sustaining activities.



Distribution of non-food items to crisis-affected communities in Ad Damer, River Nile state.  
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## RAPID RESPONSE FUND (RRF)

The [RRF](#) provides a streamlined and flexible grant application and disbursement process to finance the localized and life-saving emergency response. Through the RRF, IOM and its partners have so far reached 308,450 people in Sudan through ES, NFI, WASH, Health, Nutrition, FSL, CBI, MHPSS and Protection interventions.

## PROTECTION

IOM places protection at the centre of its operational work, recognizing the heightened risk of violence, neglect, deliberate deprivation, discrimination, abuse, and exploitation affecting populations on the move and host communities in Sudan. Since 15 April, IOM has reached 35,658 people with protection assistance through IOM's MRRCs, mobile clinics, and partners. Assistance includes vulnerability assessments, case management, tailored cash/in-kind support, information sessions, and referrals to specialized services, as needed. IOM also supports its beneficiaries to obtain identity documents, legal counseling on land and property rights, and representation in court IOM.

## MOVEMENT ASSISTANCE

IOM has assisted 149 migrants stranded by the ongoing conflict to return to their countries of origin. In coordination with UNHCR, IOM resettled 237 refugees in Canada and the United States, in addition to assisting an unaccompanied minor to reunite with his family in Belgium. IOM also assisted another 34 people to be reunited with their families in the United Kingdom and Canada. Additionally, IOM provided humanitarian transportation to 6 stranded migrants, refugees and IDPs who lacked the means to leave conflict zones or areas of extreme hardship.

## HUMANITARIAN BORDER MANAGEMENT

In order to facilitate, assist, and protect populations affected by the clashes in Sudan as they (attempt to) cross the borders, IOM supports frontline workers in responding to the increased pressure at border crossings. This includes the training of border officials in rights-based humanitarian border management, protection, identification of potential victims of trafficking and referral of vulnerable migrants. The assistance also includes supporting relevant partners and initiatives in border areas and coordinating closely with partners in neighbouring countries.

## BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE

IOM also supports the construction of critical community infrastructure – such as road, markets, health centres, schools, and community centres – applying a [community-based planning approach](#) to prioritize investments together with the communities. So far, 854 individuals have benefitted from the new constructions.



Fatima is currently sheltering at an IDP gathering site in Wad Medani, Aj Jazirah state. © IOM SUDAN 2023

*“Even if we had a car, there was no gasoline to leave with, so we left everything behind and went on the bus until we reached safety.”*

- Fatima Yahya

Fatima, a mother of four, managed to flee with her daughters after their home in Khartoum was destroyed in the attacks. Fearing for her children’s lives she left everything behind and found refuge in an IDP gathering site in Wad Medani. Through IOM's support, Fatima received essential supplies like blankets, sleeping mats, cooking utensils, mosquito nets and hygiene kits.

## KEY ADVOCACY POINTS

- IOM is appalled by the [fatal attacks](#) on the ICRC convoy in Khartoum, which claimed the lives of two people and injured seven more (including three aid workers). **IOM calls on all parties to ensure the safety of humanitarians and allow their unrestricted access to be able to assist those most vulnerable.**
- **Funding is urgently needed** – not only for life-saving but also life-sustaining and resilience building interventions – to ensure continued operational presence and critical humanitarian support in the first half of 2024.
- With the rising levels of violence and displacement in the Eastern parts of Sudan, investments are needed to **expand cross-border capacities at the Chad-Sudan border** to access hard-to-reach areas and transport relief supplies from neighbouring countries.
- Aid investment is also required in **neighbouring countries**, for returnees, border and host communities, to mitigate the impact of the crisis on local populations and to avoid a regional spillover of the conflict.
- IOM remains committed to **ensure that no one is left behind**, including IDPs, returnees, refugees, TCNs and other conflict-affected populations.

## ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

IOM supports accountability to affected populations (AAP) during project design and planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. Assessments include specific indicators for people with identified vulnerabilities, including older people, people with disabilities or particular needs, unaccompanied and separated children, and women with vulnerabilities. All activities prioritize safety, dignity, and do-no-harm principles, using appropriate identification and referral procedures. Protection is mainstreamed throughout all IOM response sectors enabling joint work to support authorities-run shelters and for GBV risk mitigation and safe referrals, and referrals to the forthcoming cash for rent programme. IOM will continue delivering protection mainstreaming and PSEA trainings for IOM staff across different thematic areas, for partners and other stakeholders involved in the response.



Solar lights installed to enhance protection in IDP gathering sites in Wad Medani, Aj Jazirah state. © IOM SUDAN 2023

IOM SUDAN'S RESPONSE IS SUPPORTED THROUGH THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION OF OUR DONORS



CONTRIBUTING TO THE FOLLOWING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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