



Mobile clinic in Om Gola, Gedaref 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:

- Provided food assistance to pregnant and lactating women in Kassala state, reaching out to 46 beneficiaries (28 migrants and 18 IDPs).
- Organized, through our legal partner Sudanese Organization for Development (SOD), a focus group session on identity documents with 49 women from the Ethiopian migrant community from New Halfa taking part.
- Organized movement assistance for 21 camp-based refugees to resettle in Canada and 2 in the Netherlands. Assisted 16 Ethiopians with cross-border ground transportation from Gedaref, Sudan to Metema, Ethiopia, under Voluntary Humanitarian Return (VHR).
- Published the [14th Weekly Displacement Snapshot](#) by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) with insights into those displaced since 15 April 2023.

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)

5,539,883

DISPLACED WITHIN SUDAN (SINCE 15 APRIL 2023)

1,505,748

CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS RECORDED
(SINCE 15 APRIL 2023)

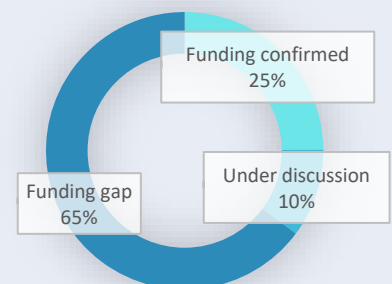
549,013

PEOPLE REACHED IN SUDAN

18

STATES REACHED IN SUDAN

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.

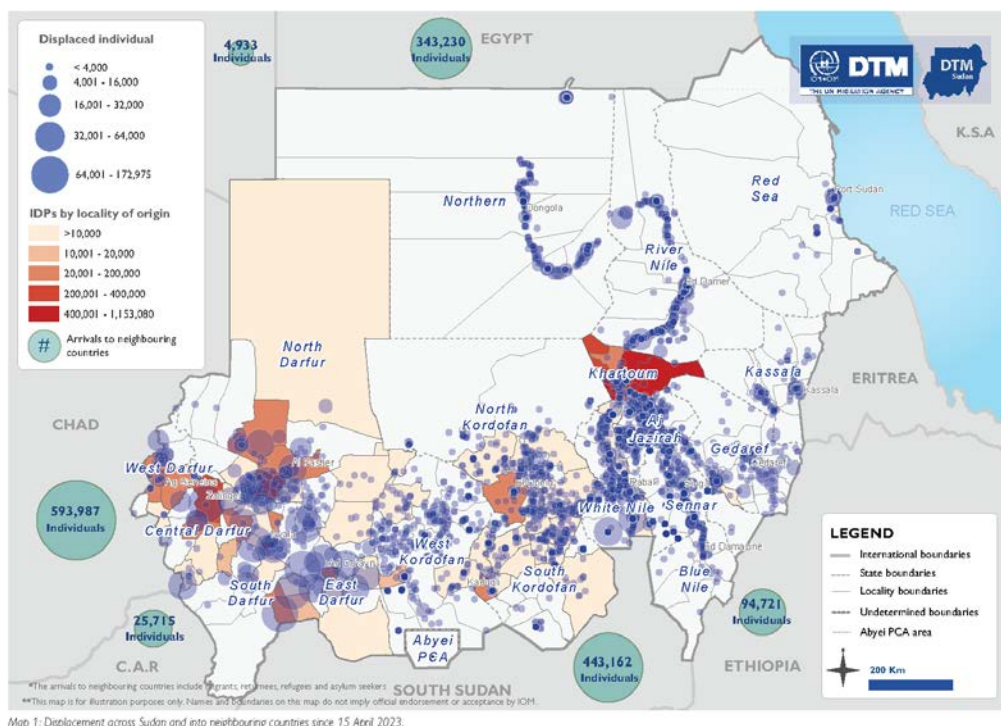
SITUATION

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 5.5 million people displaced to 6,089 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 6,939, including 200 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 1.5 million people have fled into neighbouring countries – namely Chad (39.4%), South Sudan (29.4%) and Egypt (22.8%). 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 movements and evolving needs of displaced populations across all states in Sudan.

Since 15 April, DTM has published 18 situation reports, 14 weekly displacement snapshots, 3 monthly displacement overviews, 130 early warning flash reports and 34 datasets that can be found [here](#).

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

IOM has distributed emergency shelter (ES) and non-food items (NFI) to 70,893 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 2023, IOM has reached 389,368 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 48,227 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 Migration Resource and Response Centres (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.

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 3,472 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.



Preparation of NFI kits for distribution to conflict affected communities in Darfur through Chad/Sudan cross-border operations. © IOM SUDAN 2023

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 392,249 people 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 2023, 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 counselling on land and property rights, and representation in court.

MOVEMENT ASSISTANCE

IOM has assisted 167 migrants stranded by the ongoing conflict to return to their countries of origin. In coordination with UNHCR, IOM resettled 258 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 roads, markets, health centres, schools and community centres – applying a [community-based planning approach](#) to prioritise investments together with the communities. So far, 854 individuals have benefitted from the new constructions.



Displaced family in Wad Medani, Aj Jazira state before the start of recent hostilities. © IOM SUDAN 2023

QUOTE

“This is a human tragedy of immense proportions, deepening the country’s already dire humanitarian crisis.”

- Amy Pope, IOM Director General

IOM DG calls for urgent ceasefire and unimpeded humanitarian access to allow aid to reach those in need, amid escalating violence in Sudan.

KEY ADVOCACY POINTS

- **Funding is urgently needed** – not only for lifesaving 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 is deeply concerned about the evolving security situation in Aj Jazirah state**, a key humanitarian hub in the country and a transit and temporary destination for many displaced populations and calls on warring parties to guarantee safe passage of fleeing populations as well as secure humanitarian access to communities in need.
- **IOM remains committed to ensure that no one is left behind**, including IDPs, returnees, refugees, Third-Country Nationals (TCNs), and other conflict-affected populations.

Up to 300,000 Sudanese Displaced by the Latest Surge in Fighting

Up to 300,000 people have fled Sudan’s second largest city, Wad Madani in Aj Jazirah state, in a new wave of large-scale displacement after fighting spread to the area, according to initial estimates by the International Organization for Migration’s (IOM) [Displacement Tracking Matrix \(DTM\)](#).

Nearly half a million men, women and children, had taken refuge in Aj Jazirah state since the start of the crisis in April. Thousands are again on the move, many in panic, fleeing fighting between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that broke out in the outskirts of Wad Madani on 15 December.

Conflict-displaced people have sought refuge in various neighbouring states, many crossing to South Sudan through the Renk border crossing point. Given the scarcity of available transport options, many people have reportedly fled on foot and are currently sheltering in open areas, improvised shelters, schools, and within the host community.

Located 140 kilometers southeast of the conflict-torn capital Khartoum, Wad Madani, sits at the heart of Al Jazirah state, known as Sudan's agricultural breadbasket.

These latest movements will push Sudan's total displaced population beyond 7.1 million, the world’s largest displacement crisis. More than 1.5 million people have fled to neighbouring countries, a staggering number in a country reeling from conflict, food insecurity, and economic collapse.

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



CONTRIBUTING TO THE FOLLOWING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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