



Food processing training as part of income generating activities for displaced women in Gedaref.
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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:

- Received two **Mobile Storage Units (MSU)** in Farchana and Abeche, Chad, each capable of holding **350 metric tons (MT)**, totaling **700 MT**. The two MSUs will increase the storing capacity of emergency relief items in eastern Chad in view of the expansion of Chad-Sudan cross border operations.
- Distributed **729** hygiene kits through our partner Sudanese Coalition for Education for All (SCEFA) in Port Sudan (Red Sea) to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) fled from Aj Jazirah state.
- Conducted training on food processing as an **income-generating activity for women**, together with our implementing partner Child Development Foundation, with the participation of 20 female internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Gedaref.
- Delivered medical assistance to 53 individuals via the **Migrant Resource and Response Center (MRRC)** and 34 individuals via **Mobile Clinic services** in Kassala.
- Conducted training sessions on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) at the newly established gathering site in El Shargia in Red Sea state for 48 IDPs, promoting awareness and safeguarding of vulnerable populations.
- Delivered **cash-based assistance** to 17 migrants in Port Sudan to cover necessities, ensuring their immediate needs were met with dignity and support.
- Supported **resettlement** of 14 refugees to Canada, 3 migrants and 1 unaccompanied minor through operational escorts to United Kingdom and assisted 4 returnees through voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) to Nigeria.
- Published the [21st Weekly Displacement Snapshot](#) by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) with insights into those displaced since 15 April 2023.

KEY FIGURES



24.8 million

PEOPLE IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN SUDAN

6,270,676

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs)
(SINCE 15 APRIL 2023)

1,870,422

CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS RECORDED
(SINCE 15 APRIL 2023)

1.2 million

PEOPLE REACHED IN SUDAN

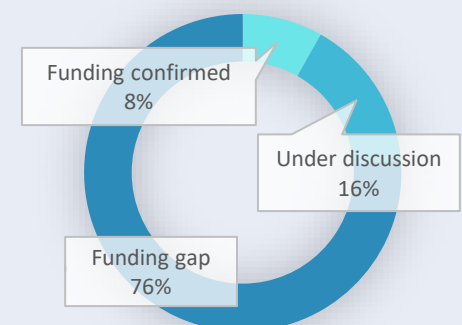
6,771

LOCATIONS DISPLACED PEOPLE FLED INTO

18

STATES REACHED IN SUDAN

FUNDING (AS OF 21 FEBRUARY 2024)



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

Ten months into the conflict, Sudan remains the largest displacement crisis in the world, with 11 million people displaced inside and outside the country, including 9.2 internally displaced. The fast unfolding of the crises leads to ongoing mass displacement and the recent escalation of fighting in southeastern Sudan poses a [significant threat to national food security, increasing the likelihood of food shortages](#). Without a significant increase in food assistance by the onset of the lean season, conflict-affected areas will spiral into "[catastrophic hunger](#)", also known as Phase 5 on the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) scale, representing the most extreme stage of food insecurity.

SITUATION

The conflict that broke out on 15 April 2023, between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) continues to inflict devastating consequences on millions of civilians in Sudan, with half of the population (24.8 million people), estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. The people are facing acute hunger and the United Nations estimates that about [18 million people are facing emergency levels of hunger](#) – double the figure from last year.

The escalation of fighting between the SAF and the RSF in the southeast has led to a rapid increase in the need for food assistance. Sudan is projected to have [the third highest proportion of its population in need of food assistance](#) among the countries monitored by FEWS NET in 2024. The emergence of this new conflict zone is further disrupting trade and agricultural activities in Sudan's main food-producing region, posing a significant threat to the country's food supply.

The intensification of hostilities, combined with widespread displacement of populations, destruction of property and infrastructure, widespread looting, and limited humanitarian access, is exacerbating an already dire food security situation. The escalation of fighting in southeastern Sudan poses a significant threat to national food security and increases the likelihood of food shortages. This crisis not only exacerbates food insecurity but also serves as a significant driver of migration and displacement, amplifying the vulnerabilities of people already on the move. While IOM addresses several significant challenges posed by displacement, the deteriorating food security situation in Sudan poses additional challenges. It heightens the risks for those forced to flee their homes, exposing them to further dangers and uncertainties along their journeys. Moreover, increased food insecurity can push individuals and families to make exposed decisions, including embarking on unsafe migration routes in search of food, safety, and stability.

IOM facilitates and manages migration effectively while upholding the human dignity and well-being of migrants. In Sudan, IOM's initiatives are crucial in supporting people facing heightened vulnerabilities as they move. By addressing the effects of food insecurity on migration patterns and the well-being of displaced individuals, IOM aims to support efforts to mitigate the impact of conflict-induced displacement and promote the resilience of affected communities.

The prolonged conflict in Sudan has resulted in protracted displacement, with communities enduring years of instability, loss, and trauma. Protracted displacement exacerbates vulnerabilities, disrupts livelihoods, and strains host communities. IOM recognizes the necessity for heightened focus on the long-term needs of displaced populations, including psychosocial support, education, and livelihood opportunities, aimed at promoting community resilience and self-reliance.

Acute hunger and malnutrition will have a lasting generational impact on the health of the population. They also increase vulnerable groups' risk of medical complications and death from disease outbreaks. The situation in Sudan is dire and according to the World Health Organization (WHO), Sudan has reported over 10,000 cases of cholera, 5,000 cases of measles, approximately 8,000 cases of dengue, and over 1.2 million clinical cases of malaria. This alarming increase occurs as more than 80 out of the 503 health facilities operated by aid organizations in the country are either non-functional or only partially operational [due to security concerns, shortages of medical supplies, or insufficient personnel](#).

The worsening situation in Sudan has significant impacts for neighboring countries, many of which are already dealing with prolonged crises. Sudan shares borders with seven countries across three regions and plays an important role in migration, serving as a crossroads between countries in East and the Horn of Africa, Libya, and Egypt, particularly along the Central Mediterranean route. It serves as a passage for migrants heading towards the Gulf through the Northern route. Since the outbreak of the crisis, almost 1.8 million people have [fled into neighboring countries](#), with Chad (37%), South Sudan (30%), and Egypt (25%). Cross-border movements are rapidly increasing, particularly towards South Sudan, Ethiopia and Chad, putting pressure on already limited capacities to provide humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected populations.

10 months of crisis, 10 months of suffering, 10 months of resilience. Every minutes of the crisis adds to the vulnerability of people.

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, 21 weekly displacement snapshots, 5 monthly displacement overviews, 162 early warning flash reports, one focused flash alert and 41 datasets that can be found [here](#).

SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

IOM has distributed emergency shelter (ES) and non-food items (NFI) to 121,862 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, 139 containers with relief items have been received in Port Sudan with another 61 containers en route to Sudan. The items are being delivered to humanitarian partners for distributions across Sudan.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

Since 15 April, IOM has reached 911,585 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 73,840 people and nutrition assistance to 2,401 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 Northern Abyei PCA North.

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 providing community-based agricultural and pastoral livelihoods support and income generating activities in Sennar, Blue Nile, North Darfur, River Nile, White Nile, and Gedaref states targeting 1000 households.

As part of its protection assistance, IOM also provided food support to 13,752 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 49,230 individuals in Sudan. IOM also provides grants to community-based organizations (CBOs) as seed funding for livelihoods and other life-sustaining activities.



Life-saving relief items being stocked in the IOM Warehouse in Port Sudan.
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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 392,249 people in Sudan through ES, NFI, WASH, Health, Nutrition, FSL, CBI, MHPSS and Protection interventions.

MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT (MHPSS)

IOM has so far reached 5,890 people with psychological first aid (PFA) and other MHPSS services in Aj Jazirah, Gedaref, Kassala, Khartoum, Red Sea, Sennar, North Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur, West Kordofan, and White Nile states. The assistance includes group and individual counselling, psychoeducational sessions on stress management, and referrals to specialized care.

CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS

IOM has, so far through our cross-border operations, provided 5 trucks with 3,300 hygiene kits, reaching 19,800 individuals in Wadi Halfa (Northern state) through Egypt, and 14 trucks with 13,700 hygiene kits reaching 82,200 individuals in Ardamata and Mornei (West Darfur state) through Chad.

PROTECTION

Since 15 April, IOM has reached 63,981 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 migrants stranded by the ongoing conflict to return to their countries of origin. In coordination with UNHCR, IOM resettled refugees in Canada, Sweden and the United States, in addition to assisting an unaccompanied minor to reunite with his family in Belgium. Additionally, IOM assisted people to be reunited with their families in the United Kingdom and Canada. IOM also provides humanitarian transportation to stranded migrants, refugees and IDPs who lack 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, as well as rapid needs assessments.



QUOTE

“These medicines arrived at the right time as we witness mothers struggling daily to cover the basic needs of food and medical expense for their children.”

- Khadiga, health worker in West Darfur

KEY ADVOCACY POINTS

- Urgent approvals for humanitarian personnel to cross conflict lines and guarantees of safe passage for both humanitarian aid and commercial trade are **essential measures to prevent worsening hunger during the lean season of 2024.**
- The escalation of conflict in Sudan's main food-producing region is exacerbating disruptions to trade and agricultural activities, posing a grave threat to the nation's food supply. **Urgent assistance is needed as conflict-affected areas are at risk of plunging into "catastrophic hunger,"** reaching Phase 5 on the IPC scale, the highest level of food insecurity.
- Transition and recovery initiatives are important for supporting communities in crisis to rebuild and regain stability. **We must invest in these efforts to address immediate needs while laying the groundwork for long-term resilience, sustainable development, and lasting peace.**
- Investments are required to **expand cross-border systems,** to increase capacities to deliver aid to hard-to-reach areas.
- 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.



There is urgent need to scale up humanitarian response to reach the most vulnerable in Sudan. IOM is on the ground to respond to these needs but more needs to be done!

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



CONTRIBUTING TO THE FOLLOWING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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