NO. 16 6 March 2024



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 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 1,000 households.
- Organized a psychosocial support recreational day, mainly for displaced mothers and children in the Al Slam gathering site. A total of 136 internally displaced persons (IDPs) participated in the activities.
- Provided medical assistance to 56 migrants through the Umgulja Medical Center in Gedaref state, and another 103 displaced individuals through our implementing partners, the Sudan Family Planning Association in Gedaref, and the Muslim World League in Kassala.
- Facilitated a 16-day training in emergency response in the Red Sea Quarantine sector in Kassala, including training 70 health workers in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), 20 health workers in disease surveillance, 27 health workers in case management, and 10 health workers in food safety.
- Resettled 46 refugees to Canada and reunited 5 other migrants with their families in the United Kingdom.
- Started the construction of 42 latrines across 16 IDP gathering sites in Sennar to improve the sanitary conditions and mitigate the spread of diseases in displacement sites and across host communities in this state, particularly affected by the cholera outbreak.
- Published the 6th Monthly Displacement Overview and 22nd Weekly
 <u>Displacement Snapshot</u> 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

6,397,698

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

1,884,909

CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENTS RECORDED (SINCE 15 APRIL 2023)

1.2 million

PEOPLE REACHED BY IOM IN SUDAN

1 in every 8

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS WORLDWIDE IS IN SUDAN

FUNDING (AS OF 6 MARCH 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

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. Sudan is the largest displacement crisis globally, with a staggering 11 million individuals displaced, both inside and outside the country.

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, with <u>half of the population</u> (24.8 million people) estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance) and with <u>over 6 million people</u> displaced within Sudan in the last ten months alone. The recent clashes in Aj Jazirah state have worsened the crisis, especially in Sennar state, where 615,753 IDPs were reported as of 22 February 2024.

Severe shortages of basic goods, including food, water, medicines, and fuel, have intensified nationwide due to disrupted trade routes and limited access, prices have dramatically increased, making it unaffordable for many people to meet their basic needs. This is further compounded 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 in a state of collapse due to recurrent attacks, looting, and the occupation of medical facilities and hospitals. Sudan is currently facing widespread outbreaks of cholera, dengue, malaria, and measles. Despite vaccination efforts, Sudan faces a surge in cholera cases, with 10,783 suspected cases and 296 deaths across 11 states, including 144 confirmed cases and five fatalities, highlighting the urgent need for intervention. IOM is supporting the cholera response by installing emergency latrines in gathering sites and drilling boreholes. These initiatives are essential in preventing the further spread of the disease and safeguarding the health and well-being of displaced populations.

The conflict has exacerbated acute hunger and malnutrition, which will have a lasting generational impact on the health of the population. Moreover, the ongoing harvests in Sudan are anticipated to fall significantly below average in localized areas of greater Darfur and greater Kordofan, with severe reductions in West Darfur and Central Darfur states. These regions responsible for a substantial portion of the national production of sorghum and millet, which will greatly affect national food availability. Consequently, more households are expected to rely on markets and humanitarian aid to fulfill their food needs. Anticipating a diminished harvest, staple food prices are likely to persist at unusually high levels during the harvest season and may further escalate in the post-harvest period.

Sudan also faces a crisis in protection, with gender-based violence pervasive, underscoring the critical need for protective measures and support systems. Since mid-April, there have been widespread reports of <u>sexual and gender-based violence</u> in the conflict-affected regions. Furthermore, challenges encompassing insecurity, looting, bureaucratic hurdles, poor network and phone connectivity, cash shortages, and a limited technical and humanitarian staff on the ground, are adversely impacting the distribution of humanitarian aid in numerous regions of the country. Despite these challenges, IOM and its humanitarian partners continue to provide life-saving assistance to the vulnerable populations within their reach.

The worsening situation in Sudan has also 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, 1,884,909 million people have <u>fled into neighboring countries</u>, with Chad (37%), South Sudan (31%), 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.



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, 6 monthly displacement overviews, 169 early warning flash reports, one focused flash alert and 42 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 to for distributions across Sudan.

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)

Since 15 April, IOM has reached 963,001 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 1,000 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.



RAPID RESPONSE FUND (RRF)

The <u>RRF</u> 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 5,878 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, recreational days, 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

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.



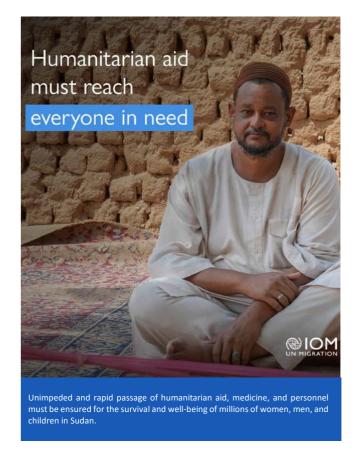
"It is very difficult for me to leave my home for medical treatment as I do not have transportation that access to accommodate my disability."

- Qisma Ibrahim

Qisma, a 48-year-old displaced woman living with disabilities received much-needed medical assistance through IOM's mobile medical team in Wadi Halfa, Northern state. Despite the challenge of being blind and having both legs amputated, her spirit remains unbroken as she holds on to her dreams and hope for a better future

KEY ADVOCACY POINTS

- The conflict in Sudan has driven 17.7 million people into high levels of acute food insecurity. Strengthening life-saving humanitarian assistance, along with providing resilience building and livelihood support remains critical.
- Safe and unhindered access must be granted by all parties to the conflict, particularly in areas currently facing cholera outbreaks, to bring urgent relief and mitigate the risk of spreading throughout the country. Safe and unhindered access must be granted by all parties to the conflict to bring urgent relief and mitigate the risk of spreading throughout the country.
- Cross-border operations are essential to deliver life-saving humanitarian aid into Darfur.
- Integrated WASH and health interventions are needed to respond to and prevent the spread of cholera and other water-borne diseases to safeguard communities and promote well-being.
- Accurate, timely and reliable data is required to enable humanitarian actors to allocate resources efficiently and address emerging challenges.
- Transition and recovery initiatives are important to support 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.























































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