**HIGHLIGHTS**

IOM continued providing critically needed humanitarian assistance in Sudan and in neighbouring countries, while advocating for safe, unhindered access to the most affected populations. During this reporting period, IOM has:

- In Sudan coordinated voluntary humanitarian movements with IOM Ethiopia to support the return of 15 Ethiopian nationals from Gedaref to Gondar and then by air to their final destinations.
- In Chad, IOM distributed water, sanitation and hygiene/non-food item (WASH/NFI) kits to 507 households/2,070 individuals (352 women, 331 men, 745 girls and 642 boys) in the site of Kawa in Ouaddai province. The kits comprised of water containers, soap, and water purification sachets.
- In South Sudan, IOM continued providing primary health care services in health facilities and mobile clinics, fit for travel screening and assisting deliveries and vaccination for children and adults, assisting 9,548 individuals.
- In Ethiopia, in collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute, 4,770 individuals were reached through medical screenings at points of entry (PoEs) health services including medical consultations, and malnutrition screenings.
- In Egypt, IOM delivered needed medical services and interventions to 138 new Sudanese arrivals, who received direct medical assistance including medical referrals, medications, and medical equipment (hearing aids and wheelchairs).
- In CAR, IOM distributed 500 NFI kits to crisis-affected populations.
- In Libya, IOM reached 792 Sudanese nationals with medical assistance as well as critical NFIs. Additionally, art-based activities were also conducted to provide mental health and psychosocial support to 12 children.
- IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix published the 28th Weekly Displacement Snapshot.

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With 16 people displaced every minute, Sudan remains the largest displacement crisis in the world. Between the 15th and 23rd of April, IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has recorded an additional 62,586 IDPs, and an additional 19,728 mixed cross-border movements into the neighbouring countries of Chad, Egypt, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Libya, and the Central African Republic.

Within Sudan, IOM continues to monitor the situation in El Fasher, where DTM reports an estimated total of 40,615 individuals (approximately 8,123 households) were displaced due to clashes in the area between 1 and 16 April. The international community has expressed concern that a takeover of El Fasher could lead to an escalation of ethnic violence across Darfur. Ongoing clashes are further impeding the delivery of humanitarian assistance that is critically needed to prevent populations in the area from slipping into famine. Half a million internally displaced people who are residing in El Fasher are currently at extreme risk.

IOM’s DTM has also recorded more than 2 million mixed cross-border movements into countries neighbouring Sudan, many of whom are experiencing protracted crises of their own. In Libya, there are reports of increasing flows into Al Kufra, which is a major point of entry for Sudanese arrivals. Local authorities have noted severe cases of infectious diseases that require urgent attention, and immediate funding is required to prevent the further deterioration of healthcare services in Al Kufra. Given reports of Sudanese migrants entering Libya from Egypt, IOM Libya undertook a Rapid Needs Assessment in Tobruk, the final assessment of which was published in the last week of April. Amongst the assessed caseload, the majority cited economic reasons as the main reason for leaving Egypt, while a minority cited reasons related to documentation and legal status. Others cited having left Egypt to reunite with family, or to move onward (e.g. to Europe). The findings of the assessment align with concerns highlighted by Sudanese migrants in Egypt, including around high rents, housing, access to healthcare, and access to education.

In Chad, where 12 fires between 4 March and 19 April affected an estimated 10 per cent of the returnee site in Tongori, IOM deployed a rapid assessment in Adré to understand the needs of 200 returnee households who departed the site. Preliminary results highlight that 100 per cent of those who left Tongori intend to return if conditions permit, including regular distribution of humanitarian assistance (78%), no more fires (75%), installation of durable shelter materials (73%), and establishment of a security outpost (39%). Given ongoing implementation of activities, and no new fires being reported as of 19 April onward, the situation is expected to normalize over the coming weeks.

Cross-border flows into Chad continue, with statistics from the Commission Nationale pour l’Accueil et la Réinsertion des Réfugiés et des Rapatriés (CNARR) highlight that over 90 per cent of new arrivals at the border have consistently reported the lack of food in Darfur as the main reason for leaving Sudan. The rainy season is expected to further complicate delivery of assistance in Chad, as well as in the Central African Republic, where additional funding is urgently needed to respond with durable shelters to the needs of Sudanese refugees.

Critical gaps in transportation assistance are also reported in Ethiopia and South Sudan – in South Sudan, the suspension of onward transportation assistance (OTA) for just one month could create a backlog of 50,000 individuals in transit sites, including 30,000 new arrivals.
REGIONAL SUDAN RESPONSE

SUDAN

Since the conflict erupted on 15 April, IOM has assisted 1,721,995 crisis-affected individuals across Sudan.

- 132,932 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 received emergency shelter and NFIs.
- 266,584 individuals received hygiene kits and a total of 1,417,128 individuals benefited from the provision of WASH interventions in the Red Sea, Northern, Gedaref, South Kordofan, and West Darfur states.
- 73,840 individuals benefited from emergency health assistance and 2,401 individuals from nutrition support through eight health facilities (Aj Jazirah, Blue Nile, Northern and Sennar states, and Abyei PCA North), mobile outreach to hard-to-reach communities, and two Migrant Resource and Response Centres (MRRCs) located in Gedaref and Kassala.
- 8,323 displacement-affected individuals were provided with Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services.
- 35,991 individuals received protection assistance 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.
- 49,230 individuals received MPCA.
- 22,158 individuals benefitted from the construction of community infrastructures (such as roads, markets, health centres, and community centres).
- 460 stranded migrants have received voluntary humanitarian return (VHR) assistance since 15 April 2023. In close collaboration with UNHCR, IOM has also resettled 553 refugees from Sudan to Canada and the United States (US). Another 89 individuals have also been assisted to reunite with their families in Belgium, Canada, the United Kingdom, and US.
- 251,647 individuals have been reached with essential relief items through common pipeline partners.

In addition, through the Rapid Response Fund mechanism, IOM’s partners have reached 234,397 direct beneficiaries in Sudan with Emergency Shelter (ES)/NFI, WASH, health, food security and livelihoods (FSL), and protection interventions so far.

Activities supported by the Rapid Response Fund are implemented by parties external to IOM. The count of people reached by these activities is not included in total number of people reached presented above.

SOUTH SUDAN

As of 21 April, a total of 643,596 individuals have been recorded as arriving in South Sudan from Sudan (20% Sudanese and 80% non-Sudanese).

Since the start of the crisis, IOM in Sudan has assisted 420,291 individuals.

- 379,419 individuals received OTA assistance from PoEs to Renk, and from Renk to Malakal, by road transportation, boat and chartered flights, complemented by protection, cash, MHPSS, health and referral services.
- 42,541 individuals reached with MHPSS.
- 222,569 individuals reached with protection services.
- 571,288 individuals received health care services (returnees, refugees, and host communities).
- 206,000 individuals reached through Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) in transit camps.
CHAD

A total of 745,086 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Chad from Sudan (78% Sudanese and 22% non-Sudanese). Arrivals through Adré border crossing point, Ouaddai continue to increase and are averaging 1,000 persons per day. The main reason for the displacement of those households is the lack of food in Darfur. With the ongoing suspension of the cross-border corridor from Chad into Darfur, this influx is expected to continue.

Since April 2023, IOM has reached 107,134 individuals in Chad, mainly in Ouaddai and Sila provinces.

- 13,102 individuals assisted with relocation/transportation to safer sites in Tongori and Deguesa.
- 41,754 individuals received with MPCA.
- 21,959 individuals assisted with transitional shelter, 44,606 with NFIs, and 75,146 with WASH in the supported sites.
- 38,609 individuals benefitting from protection services offered in Tongori and Deguesa sites, including a protection referral system, regular meetings with communities and regular sensitization activities on gender-based violence (GBV) and MHPSS.
- A community centre was constructed and is operational in the Tongori site.

EGYPT

The latest update on arrival figures from the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs shows 514,827 individuals (97% Sudanese and 3% non-Sudanese) as having crossed into Egypt from Sudan. To date, IOM Egypt has assisted a total of 54,192 individuals.

- 20,656 individuals assisted with health and nutrition services.
- 16,148 individuals provided with cash assistance (MPCA)
- 18,382 individuals provided with shelter/NFI services.
- 2,918 individuals received food security assistance.
- 3,227 individuals reached with education assistance (grants, school kits).
- 1,303 individuals reached with PSEA services.
- 563 individuals benefited from outreach assistance including community events organised for newly arrived Sudanese nationals.
- 446 individuals have participated in capacity building activities.
- 190 individuals assisted with VHR.

ETHIOPIA

A total of 122,426 individuals have been recorded as arriving in Ethiopia from Sudan (47% Sudanese and 53% non-Sudanese). DTM continues to track flows across the border. Since mid-April, the figures for new arrivals including Ethiopians, Sudanese and Third country Nationals has declined from 251 on 15 of April to 104 on 28 April. Similarly, the figure for Sudanese new arrivals has declined by 42 per cent from 215 in the week of 15 April to 91 during the week of 28 April.

During the reporting period, IOM continued to provide health, WASH, protection and MHPSS assistance as part of its multisectoral response to the Sudan crisis, in addition to:

- In collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute, 4,770 individuals were reached through medical screenings at PoEs health services including medical consultations, and malnutrition screenings.
- 2,604 individuals provided with MHPSS services to address immediate psychosocial needs.
- 2,050 individuals benefitted from the construction of a water tanker and the expansion of water schemes and pipelines. An additional 4,362 individuals benefitted from the delivery of water through pipelines.
- 1,118 individuals benefitted from the construction of WASH facilities, notably including bathing and washing facilities.
- 379 individuals were provided onward transportation assistance to their communities of origin, which was complemented by protection services provided at the Migrant Response Centre (MRC), including consultations, temporary accommodation, screenings etc.

The total number of individuals reached:

- CHAD: 107,134
- EGYPT: 54,192
- ETHIOPIA: 112,048
A total of 29,444 individuals are recorded as having arrived in CAR from Sudan (79% Sudanese, 21% non-Sudanese). Arrivals are then relocated from Am Dafock to Birao (Korsi site) by UNHCR and local authorities, or by their own efforts. Some arrivals are reported to have resettled in five other prefectures, namely Bamingui-Bangoran, Haute-Kotto, Haut-Mbomou, Ouaka and Mbomou.

Due to the recent new waves of arrivals from Sudan, IOM continues its flow monitoring activities at the Am Dafock border crossing point and including training of enumerators, in collaboration with the National Commission for Refugees.

Since the beginning for the crisis, IOM has assisted 4,599 people, including with MHPSS (2,636), WASH (3,215), Protection (712), and PSEA awareness (748) services.

A total of 8,597 arrivals (86% Sudanese and 14% non-Sudanese nationals) have been observed by IOM DTM in Libya arriving directly from Sudan via Northern State and North Darfur or indirectly from Chad and Egypt. The majority of arrivals are Sudanese migrants, followed by smaller numbers of returnees (600) and third country nationals (695).

“When conflict broke out in my hometown in Bentiu, South Sudan, in 2015, we lost everything. I struggled to get my family out of the country. We moved to Sudan, which was safe and peaceful,” recalls Nyakoang Gai. “I found a job in the capital, Khartoum, and I was able to put my children in school.”

Eight years later, Nyakoang is one of over half a million people who have arrived back in Renk, Upper Nile State, in South Sudan following the ongoing fighting in Sudan, that erupted in April last year.

“I knew if we stayed, we would be killed or die of hunger. Therefore, I had no choice but to try to return home.”

Nyakoang embarked on a two-month long journey to return to South Sudan. Many South Sudanese who had found work, peace and security in Sudan had to re-live the trauma of fleeing violence and conflict over again.

IOM has mounted one of the largest and most complex logistical operations to help people like Nyakoang and her family, and others, get back to their communities and places of origin across South Sudan. Transporting the many thousands of those who have returned by boat is one of the most efficient ways to get the high volume of people arriving from Sudan, home. Over 1,200 flights have been organized and over 26,000 people have been helped to get home by road.

Starting from the border town of Joda, IOM provides transport to reach the nearby Transit Centre in Renk. After a few days in Renk, for Nyakoang specifically, IOM will provide boat transport on the River Nile to Malakal, where she and others will start the final leg of their journey back home. Read full story here