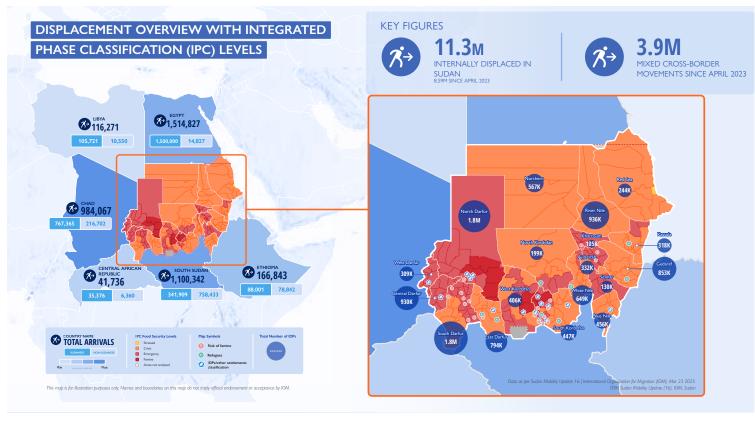
# SUDAN CRISIS REGIONAL RESPONSE

SITUATION UPDATE | APRIL 2025











### SITUATION OVERVIEW - TWO YEARS OF RESPONSE

wo years on, Sudan has become the world's largest and fastest-growing displacement crisis. Over 11.3 million people—more than 30% of the population—have been displaced. Another 3.9 million people have fled across borders, seeking safety and basic necessities.

The ongoing war has created a humanitarian disaster in Sudan, putting countless lives at risk. The conflict has destroyed the healthcare system, public infrastructure, and the economy, worsening disease outbreaks. Since day one, IOM has been supporting people affected by this war: internally displaced populations, host communities, refugees, returnees, third-country nationals, and governments affected by the crisis in Sudan.

Nearly 4 million people have been reached with humanitarian and protection assistance over the past two years, complemented by initiatives to reinforce the resilience of crisis-affected populations. In Sudan and across the region, IOM has implemented multisectoral humanitarian initiatives, including WASH, health, cash assistance, shelter support, protection, and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), to uphold the rights and dignity of crisis-affected populations. In Sudan, South Sudan, Chad, Egypt, and Libya, recovery and resilience programming complemented those initiatives.

Partnerships have been central to the response in Sudan, enabling frontline delivery by local actors in hard-to-reach areas. IOM's Common NFI pipeline and Rapid Response Fund (RRF) are key enablers that support localization of the response in Sudan. The RRF is a grant mechanism that has been consistently leveraged to ensure assistance is timely, accurate, and delivered according to needs, particularly in hard-to-reach areas with active conflict or as a response to sudden-onset disasters. Cumulatively over two years, IOM has provided 79 sub-grants, reaching a total of 1,103,440 individuals through 50 partners. Notably, IOM responded in the aftermath of the collapse of the Arba'at dam in Sudan, providing microgrants to support local organizations in delivering health and WASH assistance. Through this mechanism Emergency Response Rooms have also been supported, via mentor organizations.

Access to crisis-affected populations has remained a persistent challenge across two years of the response. Active conflict and hostilities made it near impossible to reach people in need at scale, particularly in areas of highest severity of needs. The common NFI pipeline has supported over 100 partners in Sudan through the provision of NFI and hygiene kits for onward delivery to the 1.5 million people, including over 300,000 via cross-border operations from Chad. The pipeline supports optimization of item costs, reduction of delivery times, and standardization of item quality.

In Sudan and across the response, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has played a key role in enabling an evidence-based response for the broader humanitarian community. In the region, IOM's DTM, UNHCR, and the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission in South Sudan have developed a joint dashboard on monitoring

KEY FIGURES

TWO YEARS OF RESPONSE



3.9M
PEOPLE REACHED



50
RAPID RESPONSE
FUND PARTNERS



1.5M

ASSISTED WITH NON-FOOD AND HYGIENE ITEMS VIA THE COMMON PIPELINE



1,300+

DTM PRODUCTS
PUBLISHED



HUBS ESTABLISHED



240K PROVIDED TRANSPORT ASSISTANCE



### SITUATION OVERVIEW - TWO YEARS OF RESPONSE

cross-border flows from Sudan.

Similarly, IOM has established 3 hubs in Sudan and neighbouring countries to support the wider humanitarian response. In Sudan, IOM established the hub in Atbara, a UN hub to support the operationalization of the Famine Prevention Plan in the area. In Chad, IOM has established the humanitarian hub in Farchana, which serves as a key entry point for providing cross-border assistance in Darfur as well as in underserved areas in the eastern parts of Chad. In Libya, the IOM-managed Community Response Centre in Alkufra brings together a wide range of humanitarian and protection services delivered to vulnerable individuals living in urban settings.

In the neighbouring countries, IOM works in close coordination with local governments to provide delivery of humanitarian assistance including in remote border areas. In South Sudan, IOM rapidly stood up transport assistance from the border, to help over 240,000 people fleeing Sudan reach their destinations of choice safely and with dignity over the past two years. In Egypt, IOM partners with the Egyptian Red Crescent and Egyptian Ambulance Services to provide medical assistance to communities at the border; IOM additionally partners with the Ministries of Health and Education under the Joint Platform to provide access to key services for Sudanese in-country. Similarly in Ethiopia, IOM collaborates with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) to provide vaccinations, health screenings, and medical consultations. In Libya, IOM, under the auspices of the Embassy of Sudan in Libya is currently establishing the YESS (Youth Employment One Stop Shop) to mitigate challenges faced by Sudanese in Libya, including lack of livelihood opportunities, financial insecurity and lack of information on employment opportunities.

As the conflict continues to rage, displacement continues and new routes open, while in parallel return movements begin to and inside Sudan, additional funding is critically needed to save lives, protect people on the move, and facilitate the transition to durable solutions. IOM's regional response plan is only 10% funded as of the end of February. Recent funding cuts will lead to negative cascading effects for the response, including a drawdown of lifesaving humanitarian services including data provision, partners stranded without supplies, and millions

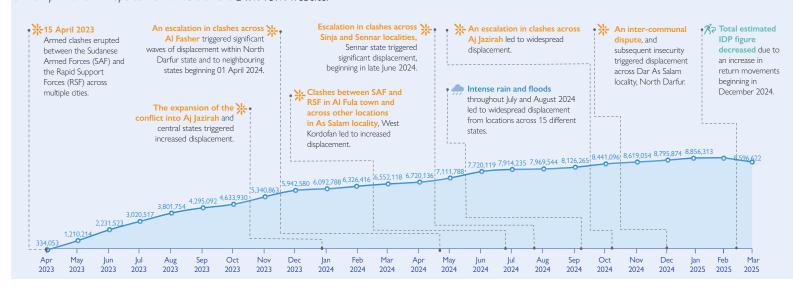
left without access to assistance.

Despite the notable progress, key gaps and challenges remain across the response. In Sudan, scaling lifesaving assistance is key, particularly as new areas become reliably accessible to UN actors in over two years. As people begin to return, it will be critical for displacement needs to be holistically addressed. Humanitarian assistance must be complemented by transition and recovery support to preserve humanitarian gains and facilitate solutions in pockets of stability. In the neighbouring countries, scaling preparedness at the borders is key to ensure flows are well managed, as well as increasing investment in resilience and recovery initiatives to progress towards durable solutions for displacement.



#### **INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT IN SUDAN SINCE 15 APRIL 2023**

The below timeline only represents a few displacement events in Sudan since the onset of the conflict on 15 April 2023. All reports are available on the DTM-IOM website.



### **UPDATES IN FOCUS - MARCH**

The number of IDPs in Sudan declined by 2.4% according to data published by IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix, marking the first decline since the crisis erupted two years ago. Since December 2024, 396,738 individuals have returned to their places of origin across Aj Jazirah, Sennar, and Khartoum states. Sudanese are also returning from abroad, with 72,039 individuals returning from Egypt between January and March 2025; this is nearly double the total number recorded throughout all of 2024. Despite areas being reclaimed by the Sudanese Armed Forces and reports of spontaneous returns and movements, it is critical to note that conditions for safe and dignified return and reintegration are not yet in place. The situation remains unpredictable in many areas of Sudan, driving complex mobility dynamics, and impacting return scenarios.

New displacement from key locations, particularly in the Darfur region, continues in parallel, indicative of the complex mobility dynamics in Sudan. On 1 and 2 March, an <u>estimated</u> 4,684 households were displaced across the Dar As Salam locality in North Darfur due to heightened insecurity. <u>DTM additionally reported</u> 15,000 households displaced from Al Malha town in Al Malha locality, North Darfur between 20 and 21 March.

Cross-border flows across the region remain highly dynamic, with nearly 4 million mixed cross-border movements being recorded as of March 2025.

A wave of violence has <u>erupted</u> in South Sudan, increasing fears of renewed civil war in the country and reversing the gains made under the 2018 Revitalized Peace Agreement. The hostilities in Upper Nile state have been <u>noted</u> by international commentators as the first sign of the regional spill-over of the war in Sudan to the neighbouring countries.

IOM in South Sudan is closely monitoring the dynamic situation on the ground. OTA continues at a smaller scale, but with civilians under direct life-saving risks due to increasing hostilities, this service is critically needed now more than ever. Funding for OTA will be exhausted in the next 4 weeks, leaving thousands stranded at transit points without access to adequate services and exposed to heightened health and protection risks.

In parallel, the continued influx of returnees through Renk and the high concentration of returnees in climate-vulnerable areas like Rubkona underscore the urgent need to complement humanitarian aid with long-term stabilization and resilience programming. Investments that strengthen services, infrastructure, and livelihoods in these areas are vital to support durable solutions and mitigate the risk of secondary displacement.

Influxes from Sudan have also continued in neighbouring Chad and Egypt. Operationalization of the nexus approach



is key in both countries to respond to the most critical needs, preserve humanitarian gains, and facilitate the transition to sustainable solutions. However, the reduction in available funding is having a direct impact on the well-being of Sudanese as well as on their inclusion into host communities, and thus on the social cohesion.

As the rainy season begins, humanitarians have a rapidly closing window to implement activities. Delivery of assistance is already being delayed in the Central African Republic due to the onset of the rains, and complicated by ongoing insecurity in the Vakaga prefecture. The season is expected to begin over the coming weeks in neighbouring Chad, requiring an immediate injection of funding to ensure continuation of the returnee response in the east.

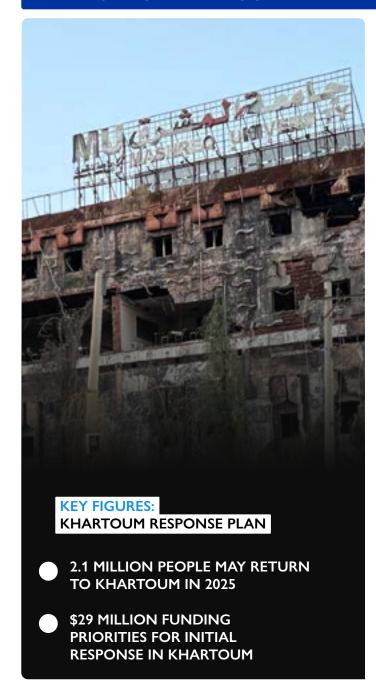
#### **RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS - MARCH**

Over the last month:

- In Sudan, 132,950 individuals were supported with shelter and settlement support, notably NFI distirbutions to crisis-affected populations.
- In Chad, 41,424 individuals were supported through community stabilization and community-driven development initiatives. This included the construction of a marketplace and community warehouse in Deguessa, Sila province, and the construction of a manual borehole in Toumtouma, Ouddai province.
- In Libya, 1,998 individuals were provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in Alkufra, Ghat, Tripoli, Bani Waleed, Zwara, Sebha, and Benghazi; assisttance provided included needs assessment sessions, art-based activities, awareness raising sessions, psychological first aid, and counselling.
- In Ethiopia, 3,049 individuals were provided health assistance. Sexual and reproductive health services were provided to 168 women at the Metema Point of Entry (PoE), and 1,785 individuals benefitted from MHPSS services at the Metema and Kurmuk PoEs. Health support provided also included pre-departure medical screening for 612 returnees at Metema before their onward travel to Gondar and Addis Ababa.
- In South Sudan, **3,707 individuals** were provided with onward transportation assistance (OTA).
- In Uganda, 49 refugees were provided support to resettle in Canada (47), the UK (1) and the USA (1) in coordination with UNHCR.

\*Data verification for reporting in March is ongoing

### FIELD DISPATCH: KHARTOUM



IOM was the first agency to conduct a mission to Khartoum, from 31 March to 4 April, following the SAF regaining control of most parts of the area. The Chief of Mission led the IOM team to the area and assess mobility dynamics to the area to ensure preparedness in the coming months.

Khartoum is one of the areas of high and severe humanitarian needs as per the Sudan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025. This is clearly evidenced by the complete lack of support to those who stayed behind, trapped in siege-like conditions by active hostilities or unable to afford moving to safety. Emergency response rooms (ERRs), which have been critical in providing support to affected populations, are teetering on the brink of total collapse with only one of every four or five remaining functional due to the lack of resources. Without support, a nightmare scenario will unfold in a city that already suffers from lack of vaccines, high levels of abuse, starvation, and the lack of fuel for transport. The lack of waste disposal and public infrastructure for over two years has created severe environmental hazards that pose life-threatening health risks to the people of Khartoum.

Needs and mobility dynamics on the ground are consistently evolving. Local partners underscored the need for consistent, reliable, and timely data that could be provided on a regular basis to inform the humanitarian response. In parallel, those coming back to the city need information

on where to go - without which they could be exposed to significant risks, including mines.

Sarah, a maths teacher, has stayed in Khartoum for two years since the conflict broke out, unable to escape. As an elderly woman, she suffered risks of sexual abuse, violence, and the loss of her loved ones.

Torture. Dead bodies. Your loved ones killed... as you're forced to watch...

Her decision was born of necessity – due to age, she was unable to flee and had no access to transportation to move to safer areas. The last few months for Sara were filled with unimaginable horrors, as bullets flew, buildings collapsed, and the death toll continued to climb, exacerbated by the lack of services.

Those who got sick died. Those who were injured still carry bullets in their bodies.

IOM is on the frontline and responding with lifesaving humanitarian assistance to Sarah's needs amongst several others. Registration for multipurpose cash distribution for 10,000 beneficiaries is ongoing under IOM's Rapid Response Fund. The RRF is in the process of issuing a microgrant to reinforce ERRs and scale support to community kitchens. Additional grants will be issued for health to urgently reinforce services in affected areas, and for WASH to support water rehabilitation at gathering sites. One thousand NFI kits have been

sent to the area under IOM's Common Pipeline, and an IOM team continues to be on the ground in Khartoum to assess the most urgent needs.

Urgent funding is required to respond to scale core operations, including protection, WASH, health, MHPSS, and cash assistance, as well as reinforcing critical enablers. Expanding DTM is critically required given extensive data gaps. In the absence of scaled support, partners risk duplication of efforts, a heightened inability to reach the most vulnerable who are in need, and limited capacity and preparedness to respond to future movements. IOM's Common NFI pipeline, which has served over 179.000 individuals in 2025 alone. supports local partners who are on the ground and responding to needs - they must not be left without tools to respond in a time when communities need urgent assistance to recover. Now more than ever, the people of Sudan need hope and support that matches the unprecedented scale of needs.

In parallel, additional funding is needed to ensure preparedness at the Egypt-Sudan border. DTM anticipates that hundreds of thousands of individuals may return to Sudan from Egypt within the next six months, depending on evolving dynamics and assuming the monthly rate of return movements remains constant. Preparedness is key in ensuring migration is safe, orderly, and well-managed.

## CONSOLIDATED KEY ACHIEVEMENTS - MARCH

SECTOR	INDICATOR	COUNTRIES	TOTAL PEOPLE REACHED IN 2025	MONTHLY RESULTS
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: SAVING LIVES AND PROTECTING PEOPLE ON THE MOVE				
Health	#healthcare services provided to vulnerable and at-risk persons	Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, Sudan	53,596	<b>1</b> 4%
Protection	#crisis-affected persons assistde with direct protection in humanitarian services, including VoTs and UASCs	Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, Sudan	15,510	<b>1</b> 4%
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support	#MHPSS services provided in crisis settings	Ethiopia, Libya, Sudan	5,868	<b>6</b> 8%
Movement Assistance	#individuals provided with in-country movement assistance in emergency crisis contexts	South Sudan	54,391	<b>6</b> 50%
Movement Assistance	#individuals provided with movement assistance across international borders in emergency crisis contexts	Sudan	471	<b>1</b> 50%
Shelter and Settlements	#crisis-affected individuals who have been reached with shelter or settlements support in crisis settings	Egypt, Libya, Chad, Sudan	316,293	<b>14%</b>
Protection	#individuals accessing education assistance through IOM interventions	Libya	70	
Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	#crisis-affected individuals persons reached with WASH support in crisis settings	Ethiopia	2,803	
Basic Needs, including Food and Multipurpose Cash Assistance	#crisis-affected individuals assisted with food and/ or nutrition assistance	Egypt, Libya	5,899	<b>77%</b>
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: DRIVING SOLUTIONS TO DISPLACEMENT				
Livelihoods and economic recovery	#individuals participating in livelihoods and economic recovery and market-oriented vocational trainings	Libya	1,350	1 20%
Community stabilization and community-driven development	#community-led initiatives implemented that were developed through community-based planning that improved social cohesion	Chad, Sudan	82,440	101%

IOM's dashboard presents real-time live updates on the implementation of the regional response to the crisis in Sudan. The dashboard can be accessed <u>here.</u>



## **OPERATIONAL PRESENCE**

#### **SECTORS**

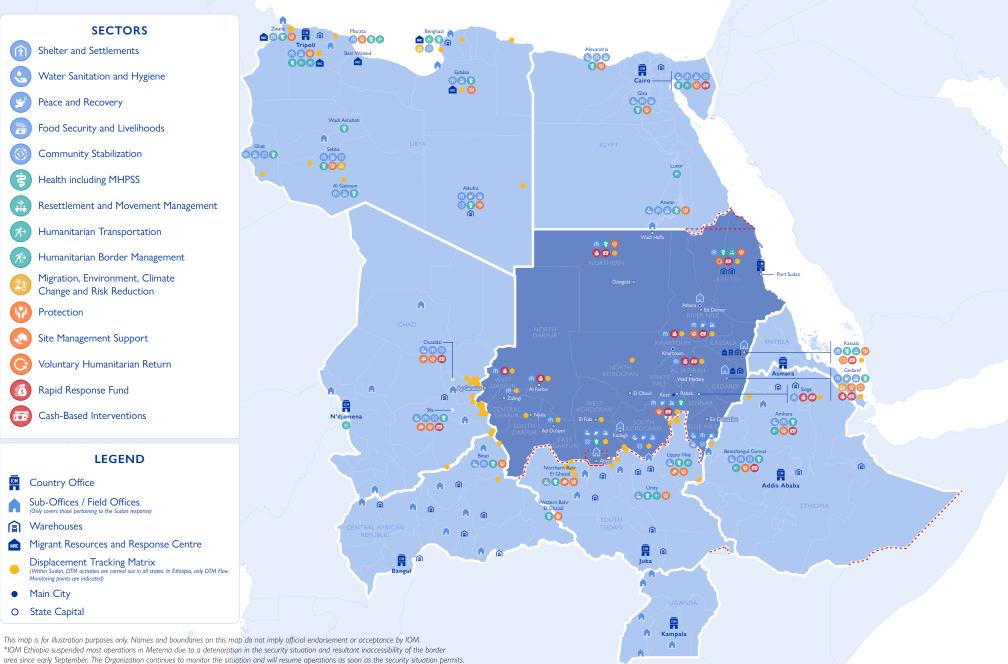
- Shelter and Settlements
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene
- Peace and Recovery
- Food Security and Livelihoods
- Community Stabilization
- Health including MHPSS
- Resettlement and Movement Management
- Humanitarian Transportation
- Humanitarian Border Management
- Migration, Environment, Climate Change and Risk Reduction
- Protection
- Site Management Support
- Voluntary Humanitarian Return
- Rapid Response Fund
- Cash-Based Interventions

#### **LEGEND**

- Country Office
- Sub-Offices / Field Offices
- Warehouses
- Migrant Resources and Response Centre
- Displacement Tracking Matrix (Within Sudan, DTM activities are carried out in all states. In Ethiopia, only DTM Flow Monitoring points are indicated)

\*\*The operational presence map is dated as of 31 December 2024

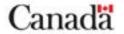
- Main City
- O State Capital



## IOM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY:























and Cooperation SDC









FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE





