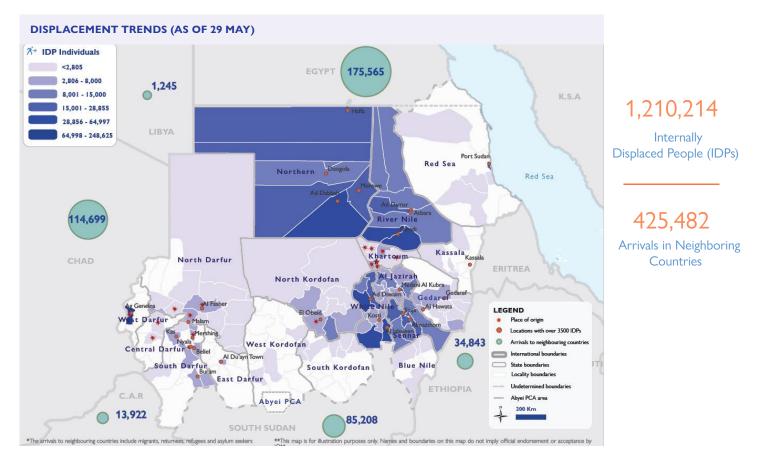


SUDAN: ESCALATING CONFLICT SITUATION UPDATE 30 MAY 2023

IOM calls on all parties to ensure the safety of humanitarians and allow their unrestricted access to be able to assist those most vulnerable. <u>IOM's Response Overview</u> for the Sudan Crisis and Neighbouring Countries contributes to addressing the humanitarian needs inside Sudan and the complexities of a mixed movements response that is inclusive of the needs of IDPs, migrant returnees, TCNs, host communities, refugees and Government entities responding to the crisis. IOM's planned response was coordinated with Governments and humanitarian partners



SITUATION OVERVIEW

In view of the expiration of the ceasefire agreement on the evening of 29 May, SAF and RSF negotiated an extension to the ceasefire for five additional days. Notwithstanding the ceasefire, clashes continued to be reported in Khartoum, particularly in Omdurman, Zalingi (Central Darfur), El Fasher (North Darfur), and Al Obeid (North Kordofan). Instances of looting, including those of UN warehouses and premises, intrusions and carjackings have also reportedly continued. In Zalingi reports of looting of homes, schools, government institutions, hospitals and humanitarian premises were also reported. In El Fasher, the situation remains volatile with reported clashes on 28 May near Abu-Shouk IDPs camp, looting of houses, markets and shops – an undetermined number of IDPs has been displaced in schools, mosques and hospitals. The state of emergency in White Nile was extended on 25 May for another month. Shooting reportedly continued also in El Obeid (North Kordofan) in effort to deter RSF advance.

On 26 May, several media outlets reported that the President of the Transitional Sovereignty Council and Commander of the Sudanese Armed Forces, Gen. Burhan, had submitted to the UN Secretary-General a request to replace SRSG Volker Perthes, Head of UNITAMS. The same day, the Ministry of Defense called on all reserves, non-commissioned officers and retired soldiers below the age of 65 to report to the nearest military unit as of 29 May. In a tweet that appeared on 28 May, Minni Arko Minnawi, the governor of Darfur and leader of the Sudan Liberation Army, urged the people of Darfur to take up arms to protect themselves and their properties; he subsequently clarified that such self-defense should only be applied against bandits and looting.

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On 27 May, the Peace and Security Council (PCS) of the African Union (AU) released a Communiqué following its 1156th meeting, adopting the African Union Roadmap for the Resolution of the Conflict in Sudan and called on all Sudanese stakeholders and the international community to support the implementation of the roadmap. Troika and the EU welcomed the AU Communiqué and reaffirmed their support for the roadmap and welcomed the AU's work to establish an Expanded Mechanism and its Core Group to ensure inclusive and coordinated regional and international action to secure a viable peace process, and the resumption of the transition to civilian government and democracy in Sudan.

Reports of electricity outages and limited internet connectivity continue nationwide and as a result of the clashes, UNMAS reports a growing number of unexploded ordinances (UXO) in Khartoum and other urban areas. Reports of increasing gender-based violence continue (UNFPA) and since the start of the conflict, WHO has verified 38 attacks on healthcare facilities. Medical supplies are running low across the country and patients are unable to access healthcare facilities to receive treatment. In Ad Du'ayn (East Darfur), more than 30 babies have died since the start of the fighting (WHO), some due to the lack of oxygen due to electricity outages. Most health facilities in North, South and West Kordofan are reportedly closed whilst those that are functioning lack supplies and staff.

Food and commodities prices continue to increase, reportedly reaching a 40 to 60 percent increase; fuel prices are also increasing, in part contributing to the overall increase in prices in the country. The increase in fuel prices and disruption in supply chains will not only continue to have a direct impact on operations in the country, but also across the neighbouring countries as both IOM Chad and IOM Central African Republic (CAR) report operational challenges due to either the lack of fuel or increase of fuel costs.

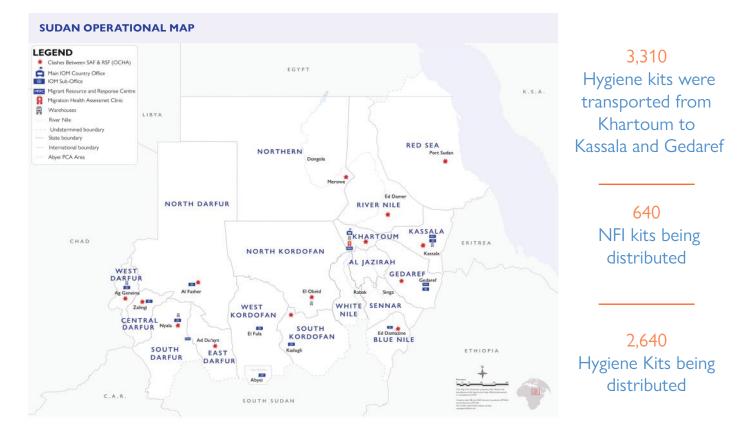
Over 1.65 million people have been newly displaced, including 1,210,214 displaced internally and 425,482 who have fled to neighbouring countries. The majority of IDPs are leaving Khartoum (69%), West Darfur (21%) and South Darfur (8%), North Darfur, Central Darfur, and North Kordofan states. The majority of IDPs (65.3%) fled to urban areas while the rest (34.7%) fled to rural areas. 75% of IDPs are seeking shelter with relatives and host communities.

Mixed flow movements continue to increase - IOM, UNHCR and government sources indicate that as of 29 May at least 175,565 people have arrived in neighbouring Egypt, 114,699 people in Chad, 85,208 people in South Sudan, 34,843 people in Ethiopia, 13,922 people in the Central African Republic and 1,245 people in Libya since the start of the conflict.

IOM continues to expand its operations and has recently obtained a permit to Wadi Halfa and Dongola in Northern state to conduct an assessment at the Sudan-Egypt border. Distribution of NFIs and WASH kits continue in eastern Sudan, whilst IOM works on securing partnerships to expand its operations across accessible areas.

RESPONSE OVERVIEW

SUDAN



IOM and UNHCR in Kassala chaired the first state-level S/NFI sector meeting on 28 May. Sector partners agreed to IOM's proposal to conduct a shelter assessment in conflict-affected communities, specifically targeting the most vulnerable within these communities

including migrants, refugees, and IDPs but also host community members. Partners are now reviewing the proposed tool and planning to conduct an assessment next week. IOM continues to distribute 640 NFI and WASH hygiene kits in Gedaref state to conflict-affected and displaced communities. On 29 May, IOM completed transporting and offloading 3,310 hygiene kits to Gedaref and Kassala. The kits were moved from the warehouse in Khartoum. IOM is also distributing 2,000 hygiene kits procured locally in Port Sudan and completed the construction and installation of 400 emergency latrines in the Reifi Aroma locality (Kassala), which will provide improved access to essential sanitation to 2,000 people. IOM and WHO are working on an UN-to-UN agreement to expand interventions at key border points (POEs), which will include coordination with UNICEF to provide primary health care services for people in need. In collaboration with UNICEF, IOM secured supplies to run the mobile clinics in POEs and met with UNDP to explore opportunities for joint fundraising, including under the emergency Global Fund. Further efforts are ongoing to expand partnerships with national and local implementing partners to scale up its emergency health response, especially in Blue Nile, Red Sea, Kassala, Gedaref and Al Jazirah States.



Distribution of life saving ESNFI kits to displaced familes in Gedaref., © IOM May 2023

SOUTH SUDAN

12,000 Returnees were Screened

5.570 Individuals Reached Households Reached through WASH Services

4,000 with WASH NFIs

3,600 Women and Girls Reached with MHMs Hygiene Kits

The number of people in need of protection continues to increase with a significant number of new arrivals reporting violence targeting civilians fleeing Sudan – more than 90% of the recorded arrivals are South Sudanese returning home and most are registered at the Juda border crossing point in Upper Nile States. As of 29 May, 85,208 new arrivals have been recorded – 2,326 Sudanese and 82,882 non-Sudanese, of which 53% female and 47% male. IOM has a protection presence at 16 key border entry points and is conducting rapid vulnerability screenings to identify vulnerable individuals for prioritization for onward transportation assistance. A new Onward Transportation Assistance (OTA) center was established in Renk, where more than 12,000 returnees were screened, identifying 2,781 vulnerable individuals for prioritization for onward transportation assistance, medical assistance and WASH support. As of 25 May 2023, movements from the Renk Port to Malakal were organized supporting 4,524 individuals. IOM has also scaled up its WASH response in the Renk transit centre, reaching 5,570 individuals with clean drinking water and improved access to sanitation through the construction of latrines. 248 individuals were reached through hygiene promotion messages, 4,000 households with WASH NFIs and 3,600 women and girls of reproductive age with menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits. Under its Health response, IOM continues to support Primary Health Clinic (PHCs) in Joda (Wunthou) and in the Abayouk Neighbourhood of Renk, which average 230 consultations a day, and provides vaccination, health awareness sessions to enhance prevention and control of watery diarrheal diseases in the TCs.

As humanitarian needs in South Sudan continue to increase, IOM regularly coordinates with partners on the ground, especially OCHA and UNHCR.

12,500 Individuals Supported with WASH Services, Food and Shelter 11,600 Individuals Received Medical Screening Support 1,700 Individuals Received Health Assistance 13,900 Ethiopian Returnees Supported with Transportation Assistance

Over 34,843 (98% Metema and 2% at Kurmuk) arrivals from Sudan – 5,076 Sudanese and 29,767 non-Sudanese from 70 nationalities have been recorded as of 29 May. Arrivals are being recorded through multiple border crossing points in Amhara and Benishangul Gumz regions of Ethiopia and monitored through IOM's Flow Monitoring Points.

IOM Ethiopia has scaled up its presence and response at border crossing points, at the Migration Response Centre (MRC) in Metema and is providing multi-sectoral assistance to arriving people, including immediate health and WASH assistance, onward transportation, and tailored protection assistance. To date, 12,500 Ethiopian migrants were supported through the provision of safe water through water trucking, hygiene promotion and environmental cleaning campaigns, maintenance of latrines and dry solid waste excavation. Food and shelter assistance was provided to 12,500 Ethiopian migrants and 11,600 received medical screening in collaboration with the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) – of those 1,700 were supported through health assistance, including medical consultation, sensitized key messages on Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) and communicable diseases. 13,900 Ethiopian returnees have received transportation assistance from the POE to their respective places of origin. 1,800 TCNs and 1,700 refugees were assisted with transportation. 412 TCNs were assisted with voluntary return (AVR).

The response continues to be closely coordinated with partners on the ground. IOM Ethiopia regularly attends the Refugee Response coordination meeting organized by UNHCR at Metema Refugee transit centre and liaises with Ethiopia Disaster Risk Management Commission (EDRMC) representative in Metema on transportation modalities of migrants.

EGYPT

As of 29 May, according to the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, more than 175,565 people (164,000 Sudanese, 6,000 Egyptian returnees, and 5,565 third-country nationals (TCNs)) have crossed into Egypt from Sudan. The average number of daily arrivals is around 4,000 to 5,000 people.

IOM has so far provided 50 wheelchairs, 750 hygiene kits, 750 dignity kits, 750 food boxes, and 30 first aid kits through the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) and is working with ERC to identify avenues to scale up the response. IOM has supported the humanitarian evacuation of 50 Cameroon nationals from the border and as of 29 May, more than 1,985 migrants have reached out to the IOM office in Cairo in person for assistance. IOM is supporting the evacuation of TCNs who arrived in Cairo from Sudan to their countries of origin: Chad (11 individuals), Senegal (1 individual), and Ivory Coast (1 Individual). When needed IOM supports with medical assistance prior to departure, medical escorts, medical aid and cash. IOM Egypt is also supporting IOM Sudan to identify TCNs in need of evacuation from Port Sudan

IOM regularly attends interagency coordination meetings and is working with partners on a service mapping tool to improve incountry coordination mechanisms.

CHAD

16,897 registered returnees 11,075 individuals reached with cash assistance 4,840 individuals reached with NFIs

Over 114,699 arrivals have been recorded in Chad as of 29 May – 90,000 Sudanese and 24,699 non-Sudanese. Approximately 24,699 returnees, 58% of which are women and 42% men, were recorded in Eastern Chad – new arrivals continue to arrive in Wadi Fira, Quaddai and Sila. IOM has registered a total of 16,897 returnees and has reached 11,075 individuals through cash assistance and 4,840 individuals received tarpaulins. IOM also continues water trucking and wash activities in the largest returnee camp, which, as of 25 May, had 7,700 people affected by the crisis. Funding remains limited to respond to the increasing needs, especially around the border areas. Furthermore, the operational environment is complex in view of the increase in fuel prices and the upcoming rainy season, the latter of which impacts access to border areas that currently host affected populations. IOM continues to work closely with UNHCR and partners on the ground.

LIBYA

As of 25 May, over 1,245 arrivals have been recorded in Al Kufra, Libya – 1,138 Sudanese and 107 non-Sudanese. Since 15 April, this includes 746 Sudanese migrant workers arriving in Al Kufra via Chad, while 99 Chadians, 3 Nigeriens, 2 Nigerians, 3 Somalis and 392 Sudanese migrants arriving from Sudan (via Darfur and Northern States).

So far, these figures are only slightly higher than the trends observed during the first three months of 2023, and include a majority of migrants and TCNs who may have started their migration journeys prior to the onset of crisis (IOM Libya DTM Report 46).

IOM Libya has a small stock of NFIs prepositioned in Al Kufra, the team will preposition more items depending on the storage space capacity as well as flows recorded from the Sudan border by <u>IOM Libya Displacement Tracking Matrix</u>. In addition, 460 additional Households NFIs kits which prepositioned in Benghazi and can be sent to the border when/if needed.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (CAR)

Over 13,922 arrivals have been recorded in CAR as of 24 May – 10,466 Sudanese and 3,456 non-Sudanese. Out of the total caseload, 13,824 were recorded in Amdafock (in the Vakaga prefecture) and 98 in Ndélé. Most of the refugees are from South Darfur, specifically Nyala and Um Dafoug, Sudan. The rainy season has started earlier compared to previous years and it is projected that by the beginning of June, the road between Birao and the current locations of the refugees/TCNs/returnees will be inaccessible. Delivery of assistance to refugees and returnees will therefore be difficult by road. Due to the distance from Bangui, Vakaga prefecture largely depends on Sudan for the provision of goods to its markets – and considering the current situation in Sudan, supply chains may be disrupted, negatively impacting the general situation in the area. Stocks prepositioned in Birao are limited, whilst no stocks are available in Am Dafock – options to install additional Mobile Storage Units (MSU) are being discussed on a national level. Similar to the situation in Chad, the lack of fuel is hampering humanitarian movements and increasing operational costs, as supplies from Sudan have been cut off. Discussions are ongoing with MINUSCA on the potential provision of fuel on a cost-recovery basis by humanitarians. Urgent funding is required to respond to the needs of the different categories of people affected by the crisis.



IOM through its Migrant Resource and Response Centre in Kassala is providing displaced familes with emergency food assistance, hygiene kits and psycosocial support. © IOM May 2023

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