SOUTH SUDAN



SITUATION OVERVIEW AND RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN SUDAN Flash Update Report # 9 | 9th June - 15th June 2023

Date Issued: 15th June 2023



Total individuals arrived from since fighting started

13,460 (New arrivals)
117,813 (Since 16th April 2023)



Point of Entry

Renk (Upper Nile), Aweil (Northern Bahr el Ghazal), Rotriak (Unity) and Amieth (Abyei AA)



Number of Flow Monitoring Points Operated by IOM

16



21,240

individuals provided with onward transportation assistance

(As at 15 June 2023)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Since the start of the response, IOM has facilitated onward transportation assistance (OTA) to 21,240 individuals as of 15 June 2023.
- Protection services are being provided at points of entry and protection staff identified 3,313 vulnerable persons. The vast majority were at Joda/Wunthow border point, where 2,433 persons (of which 1,290 were female) were identified.
- Since 8 June 2023, all riverine movements between Renk to Malakal, Upper Nile State as well as destinations past Malakal town have been suspended due to the violent situation that began in the evening of 7 June 2023. IOM and the relevant authorities are working in identifying mitigation measures that will allow the safe resumption of riverine movements and IOM continues to provide onward transportation assistance via air.
- The number of arrivals is projected to increase if the conflict in Sudan continues. A large population of returnees remains in Renk, seeking humanitarian transportation assistance. A lack of funding remains a key challenge.



CONTEXT

Less than a few hours after the expiration of the 24-hour ceasefire on 10 June between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), negotiated in Jeddah, fighting in Sudan resumed at a large scale in Khartoum, Omdurman, and Bahri. Both parties have yet to agree to resume the talks. As a result of the conflict, mixed flows out of Sudan continue to increase, with an estimated 528,147 individuals having fled to neighbouring countries as of 13 June 2023. This situation continues to significantly impact the humanitarian context in South Sudan, as 117,813 individuals (60,438 female and 57,375 male) have crossed into South Sudan from Sudan as of 15 June 2023, according to figures from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the Government of South Sudan. The majority of individuals are arriving in South Sudan through Joda/Wunthow point of entry and of these arrivals, 92 per cent are South Sudanese returnees.

Protection services are conducted at border points of entry. Rapid vulnerability screenings conducted at border points report that among the returnees are vulnerable individuals, including unaccompanied or separated children, elderly and persons with physical disabilities, people in need of health care - including those wounded from the conflict in Sudan with urgent medical needs - single female headed households, and pregnant women. Many have witnessed or been subjected to violence and exploitation in Sudan, including on their journey to South Sudan. Onward transportation from border points remains a challenge for South Sudanese returning home, including due to rising prices as a result of fuel shortages and increases in the prices of food and other commodities. A number of returnees have indicated extortion and looting on the road in Sudan, leaving them with no money and belongings.

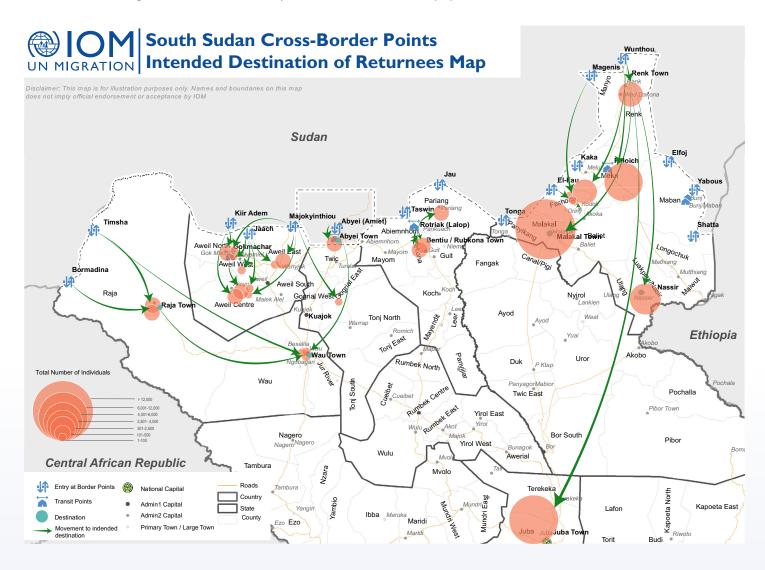








In response to the humanitarian situation, IOM South Sudan is providing onward transportation and other assistance to vulnerable returnees and third country nationals in coordination with the government and other partners on the ground. IOM South Sudan appeals for USD 43 million under <u>IOM's Sudan crisis response plan</u> to urgently respond to this crisis, whose deteriorating situation has severe implications for the affected populations.



OPERATIONS

Humanitarian Transportation/ Onward Movement Assistance

• IOM continues to provide onward transportation assistance (OTA) to vulnerable returnees and third-country nationals. Since the start of the crisis, IOM has facilitated onward transportation for 21,240 individuals as of 15 June 2023.

WASH

- IOM continues the daily provision of 75,000 litres of clean water to the transit centre (TC) in Renk, Upper Nile State, ensuring access to 15 litres per person per day (LPPPD).
- In Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, at points of entry and areas of return, IOM is ensuring access to water and sanitation facilities through water trucking, the











construction of two blocks of latrines and two blocks of bathing shelters, and the repair of two boreholes during the reporting period. IOM also distributed WASH non-food items and menstrual hygiene kits to vulnerable households.

Health

- IOM continues to provide pre-departure and general medical screenings at points of entry and areas of transit and return, referring urgent cases to specialized services.
- At IOM health clinics in Western Bahr el Ghazal and Abyei Administrative Area, health consultations, vaccinations
 for children under five years old, malnutrition screenings, and health education sessions on common illnesses and
 preventative measures are ongoing.
- The Aweil West County Hospital, which has received vulnerable returnees and referrals, was supported with medical supplies during the reporting period.

Protection and MHPSS

- At points of entry and returnee arrival, IOM is providing awareness-raising on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and available mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services and referral pathways. During the reporting period, IOM reached 181 individuals with protectionrelated awareness-raising in Malakal.
- Protection screening, provision of psychological first aid, and counseling for returnees are ongoing at PoEs and areas of returnee transit and arrival, with vulnerable cases referred for specialized services.
- Joint IOM-UNHCR protection teams are present at main points of entry, identifying vulnerable individuals for prioritization for onward transportation assistance. During the reporting period, protection staff identified 3,313 vulnerable persons (individuals in households with one or more vulnerable household members). The vast majority were at Joda/Wunthow border











point in Renk, Upper Nile where 2,433 persons (of which 1,290 were female) were identified and provided with wristbands. Maintaining family unity, vulnerable individuals and their family members were prioritized for transportation to Renk TC, while those in need of immediate medical attention or psychological first aid were referred to IOM health or MHPSS personnel, respectively. A smaller number of individuals were also identified in Unity (595 persons) and Northern Bahr el Ghazal (281 persons).

• In Renk TC, IOM established a MHPSS centre providing group PSS sessions and recreational activities, as well as referrals to partners. MHPSS teams are also present at Wunthow/Joda border point. In the past week, MHPSS counsellors provided individual counselling to 409 persons (of which 204 were female), while group sessions and recreational activities were organized for 2 groups, reaching a total of 39 persons (of which 15 were female).

CHALLENGES

- A lack of funding remains a key challenge to the timely provision of humanitarian assistance to the returnees and third country nationals arriving in South Sudan.
- The rainy season coupled with a poor road network will adversely affect the onward movement of new arrivals, which may lead to many individuals remaining at points of entry for an extended period with limited access to basic services.
- High levels of insecurity and conflict along movement routes and in some areas of return have hindered IOM and
 partners' movement assistance for returnees and third country nationals to their intended destinations. Violence in
 Malakal has necessitated the halt of riverine movement assistance since 8 June 2023, but OTA continued via air during
 the reporting period.

Daily Arrival Trends

