



SITUATION OVERVIEW

29 December 2023

- Over 550,000 people have crossed into Chad since the onset of the crisis in Sudan. IOM estimates that more than 131,425 among them are Chadian returnees and expects this number to rise to 150,000 by the end of March 2024, due to renewed conflict in Darfur.
- In coordination with CNARR and humanitarian organizations, IOM has counted 93,701 returnees and counted 346 third-country nationals (from South Sudan, Niger, Ethiopia, the Central African Republic, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, and Uganda) in 36 localities in three provinces.
- Most of the returnees currently live in spontaneous locations near the border and are in urgent need of food, water, sanitation and hygiene, shelter, household items, health, and protection.
- IOM is relocating returnees from Adre to a site in Tongori in coordination with authorities. In total, 8,226 individuals have so far been relocated. Separate designated ambulatory vehicles were used to transport the most vulnerable, including people with disabilities. Furthermore, IOM has supported the establishment of a site governance structure with representatives elected by the site residents and is supporting the establishment of community groups (women, youth, community watch, etc.).
- IOM is coordinating with local authorities, embassies and diplomatic representations for the safe transfer and voluntary return of third-country nationals (TCNs) from Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sierra Leone, and Cameroon to N'Djamena.
- IOM collaborates with a range of operational partners in the returnee response including the Government of Chad, UNHCR, OCHA, LWF, PUI, UNICEF, MSF, UNFPA, LMI, ICRC, IRC, ACTED, the Chadian Red Cross, HELP-Tchad, ATURAD, Concern Worldwide, COOPI, INTERSOS, and WFP.

FUNDING GAPS & NEEDS

Emergency humanitarian assistance and protection (WASH, Shelter, NFI, Protection)
USD 38,250,000

Voluntary Return Assistance and Relocation
USD 6,700,000

DTM and Humanitarian Border Management -
USD 3,750,000

UPDATES ON THE RETURNEE RESPONSE



78,308 (est.)

people reached with humanitarian assistance from IOM



29,287

returnees benefitted from multipurpose cash assistance



40,402

returnees benefitted from non-food assistance



44,014

people received WASH assistance with partners



16,891

returnees received shelter assistance



Displaced persons from Sudan queue to collect water in Adre. Photo: IOM/ François-Xavier Ada 2023.

Identification and registration of returnees

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) teams, including locally recruited and trained enumerators, are deployed across Sila and Ouaddai provinces on an ongoing basis to identify and register vulnerable returnee households, including newly arrived households as well as households not previously identified. IOM has completed biometric registration in Tongori site, Ouaddai province, in order to improve the accuracy of beneficiary data and avoid the duplication of assistance. IOM is also continuing to identify vulnerable returnee households living either with host communities in the border town of Adré or at the Lycée d'Adré displacement site.

Humanitarian Coordination

As the lead agency for the humanitarian response to returnees, IOM continues to coordinate with national, international, and government partners (CNARR, local authorities) to deliver vital services to vulnerable returnee households in the east of Chad. IOM recently supported the distribution of food by WFP to all registered returnee households in both Ouaddai and Sila province. IOM continues to support and coordinate the delivery of WASH, food, protection, health, shelter, NFI, and education assistance in over 30 returnee sites by national and international partners including UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP, Concern Worldwide, LWF, LMI, Help Tchad, INTERSOS, COOPI, and the Chadian Red Cross.

Protection & MHPSS

In Tongori and Degoussa sites, IOM is implementing community-based protection to strengthen the resilience of displaced communities. IOM is developing a referral system for protection cases, including persons with disabilities, in Tongori in close coordination with protection actors. In Degoussa, IOM continues to support site committees with regular meetings and to conduct GBV sensitization and MHPSS activities, such as group and individual sessions, handicrafts, and sports, as delivering sensitization sessions on PSEA and GBV to residents and humanitarian actors and is identifying and supporting vulnerable households and individuals on a case-by-case basis. Across both sites, over 33,000 individuals are benefitting from Protection and MHPSS services from IOM and partners. IOM is also continuing to identify TCNs from countries including South Sudan, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, and Cameroon who were previously residing in Sudan, have been displaced to eastern Chad, and wish to return to their home countries. IOM has so far assisted 38 TCNs in travelling home through consular and movement support.

Site Planning and Emergency Assistance

IOM is improving and developing the returnee sites of Degoussa, where 25,000 returnees have been registered, and Tongori, where 8,000 returnees reside. IOM has allocated over 1,000 transitional shelters to some of the most vulnerable households in each site, in close collaboration with community leaders, and is preparing to build 795 additional shelters in each site. In Tongori, IOM voluntarily relocates all residents from among the most vulnerable returnees living in alarming conditions in the border town of Adré. IOM also distributed 1,400 NFI and WASH kits comprising essential household and hygiene items to households in Goz Achiyé (Sila), Adré (Ouaddai), and Tongori. IOM has constructed two boreholes in each of Degoussa and Tongori and is installing 187 new bloc latrines and showers. With new funding, IOM plans to construct additional transitional shelters, boreholes, latrines, distribute NFI and WASH kits, distribute MPCA, and scale up Protection and MHPSS services to further support vulnerable returnees in 2024.



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EVOLUTION OF RETURNEE ARRIVALS

