



Funded by the European Union



Photo: IOM-led protection activity with Sudanese children in Libya. © Tariq Mouaiad IOM 2023

IOM LIBYA EMERGENCY TRACKING

SUDAN SITUATION: UPDATE #1

3 May 2023

BACKGROUND

- Armed conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) erupted in Khartoum on 15 April 2023, and as of 3 May has led to casualties, fatalities and displacement, including cross-border movement of migrants (third-country nationals) and refugees.
- OCHA [reports](#) that many civilians in Sudan are struggling to access water, food, fuel and other critical commodities, particularly in the hardest-hit urban centres, such as Khartoum.
- As of 03 May, IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) recorded the arrival of close to 700 individuals - both Sudanese and third-country nationals - in Alkufra (Libya). They arrived from Sudan or Chad (Sudanese migrant workers reported to have come to Libya instead of returning to Sudan).
- As of December 2022, there were more than [132,000 migrants from Sudan](#) (including 21,684 refugees registered with UNHCR) in Libya, many of whom are seasonal workers. Sudanese in Libya account for 19 per cent of the total migrant population in the country -- the third most-represented nationality. The majority of migrants from Sudan surveyed by [DTM in Libya in 2022](#) were single, male, between the ages of 21 and 49 and had completed a middle school-level education or higher.

LIBYA OUTLOOK

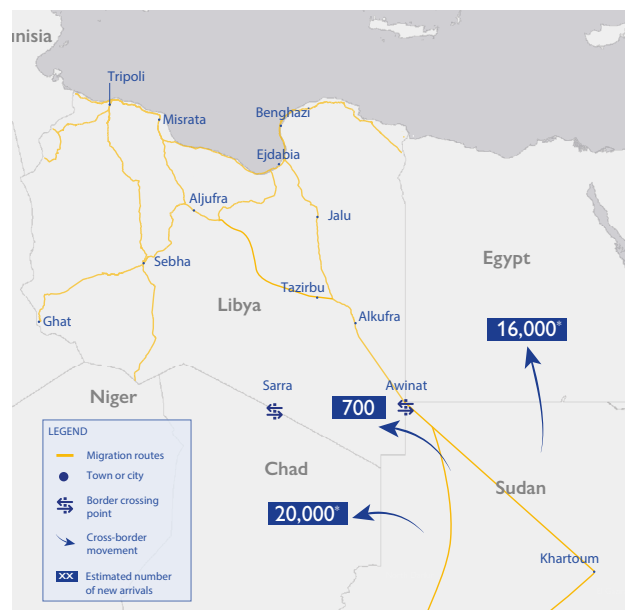
- If the clashes continue in Sudan, the [well-established circular migration](#) between Libya and Sudan is expected to be disrupted, potentially affecting the [remittances](#) they send home, an important [source of income](#).
- In the medium-term, the number of migrants (Sudanese and from other nationalities) arriving in Libya from Sudan is expected to decrease due to insecurity along the main migration routes. However, protracted conflict could increase migrants' vulnerability to hardship in the region.

IOM'S RESPONSE

- On 16 April, IOM Libya activated its emergency tracking and flow monitoring activities in Alkufra to track the arrivals of migrants and refugees from Sudan.
- IOM in collaboration with the Government of Libya and other UN agencies and partners is preparing a contingency plan to respond to a potential influx of migrants and refugees from Sudan into Libya.



Figure 1: Main migration routes through Libya and from Sudan to Libya, and number of new arrivals in Libya, Egypt and Chad since 16 April 2023



*Source: IOM DTM Sudan, Situation Report Update #2, 28 April (available [here](#))

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.