

This update is produced by OCHA South Sudan in collaboration with humanitarian partners.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Since the outbreak of fighting in Sudan on April 15, a total of **101,415** individuals crossed the border from Sudan into South Sudan. The significant majority of those crossing the border are South Sudanese returnees, while the remaining individuals are refugees and third-country nationals.
- A significant proportion of the arrivals from Sudan are women and children. Most people have arrived in Upper Nile State, and others in Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, Unity State, Western Bahr el Ghazal State, and the Abyei Administrative Area.
- The inter-connectedness between Sudan and South Sudan's economies has resulted in the conflict significantly affecting market prices. According to [the Cash Working Group](#), the average cost of a Multi-Sectoral Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket has risen by 28 per cent since April 2023, indicating the extent of the impact.
- Humanitarian partners in South Sudan are scaling up their presence in key response areas and preparing an emergency response to address the needs of the most vulnerable people.

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

Clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) erupted in Khartoum, Sudan on 15 April 2023. Despite multiple agreements for a ceasefire, clashes between the warring parties have continued as of 5th June 2023. The ongoing fighting resulted in the displacement of hundreds of thousands of Sudanese and other nationals to neighbouring countries. This escalation of the conflict, along with the expected macroeconomic impacts, is expected to worsen the already dire humanitarian situation in Sudan and its neighbouring nations.

### HUMANITARIAN SITUATION / IMPACT ON SOUTH SUDAN

Since the outbreak of fighting in Sudan on April 15, some 101,415 individuals crossing the border from Sudan into South Sudan. The majority of those crossing the border, over 90 per cent, are South Sudanese returnees, with the remaining individuals being refugees and third-country nationals. Over 75 per cent of the arrivals from Sudan are women and children. More than 90 per cent of the individuals who arrived in Renk expressed their desire to continue their journey within South Sudan. However, the high number of arrivals in need of assistance poses significant challenges for transit sites.

The UNHCR and IOM [South Sudan emergency response plan for the crisis in Sudan](#) projected, among other groups, the arrival of 180,000 South Sudanese returnees over the next three months. The response plan outlines the initial assistance planned for returnees upon their arrival and transport to state capitals under the UNHCR and IOM coordination. The coordination under the South Sudan Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) activates for returnees when they reach their destinations of settlement.

During the last consecutive four years, South Sudan has experienced consecutive years of devastating floods, affecting over 1 million people. The most impacted states include Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap, Unity, Western Equatoria, Jonglei, and Upper Nile. These recurring floods have worsened an already dire situation, leaving people without food and viable land for cultivation. The same states affected by severe flooding are now receiving refugees and returnees from Sudan, further straining the capacity to respond. With the onset of the rainy season, the re-prioritisation of limited resources to address people's needs as a result of the impact of the Sudan crisis has created gaps in flood preparedness efforts, posing challenges in effectively responding to ongoing emergencies and preparedness measures.

The conflict in Sudan has impacted market prices in South Sudan, with the average cost of the Multi-Sectoral Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (MSSMEB) increasing by 28 per cent since April 2023, as reported by [the Cash Working Group](#). These sharp price increases, particularly for staple foods, would likely exacerbate food insecurity among displaced

populations, further worsening the humanitarian situation. The interconnectedness of the two countries economies and supply chains highlights the need for coordinated efforts to address the economic consequences of the conflict and ensure access to essential commodities for affected populations. Inflation has increased the cost of the response with rising market prices reducing the ability to reach a larger number of people in need with quality services.

In Malakal, Upper Nile State, the cholera outbreak continues, a location which now hosts a significant number of returnees. Given the prevailing conditions and overcrowding in the camps, coupled with the approaching rainy season, there is a heightened risk of both waterborne diseases and other diseases spreading. To mitigate the potential impacts of movement on disease outbreaks in South Sudan, it is crucial to prioritize interventions such as improving access to clean water and sanitation facilities, promoting hygiene education, strengthening healthcare infrastructure, and enhancing surveillance and response systems to detect and contain outbreaks effectively.

There is immense pressure on the existing service provision. Attention should be paid to social cohesion activities to support the integration of returnees into the communities where they settle to promote sustainable solutions.