

# Sudan Crisis: Cross-Border Assessment

Returnee / Refugee Household Survey

6 June 2023

Central African Republic

## KEY MESSAGES

- The majority of households surveyed in the Central African Republic were **Sudanese**. They reported having fled **active conflict** in areas of **South Darfur** state. Over a third of respondents said they had been separated from one or more members of their household.
- The results indicate that households faced **dangerous journeys**. The majority of households reported having faced corruption and difficulties associated with a lack of documentation, as well as experiences of racism, discrimination and violence.
- Most households reported an **urgent need for food, water and shelter**. The most preferred form of assistance reported was **in-kind assistance**.

# 44%

44% of households reported traveling with at least one pregnant or nursing woman in their household.

# 78%

78% of households stated that at least one member of their household had no identity papers.

## CONTEXT & RATIONALE

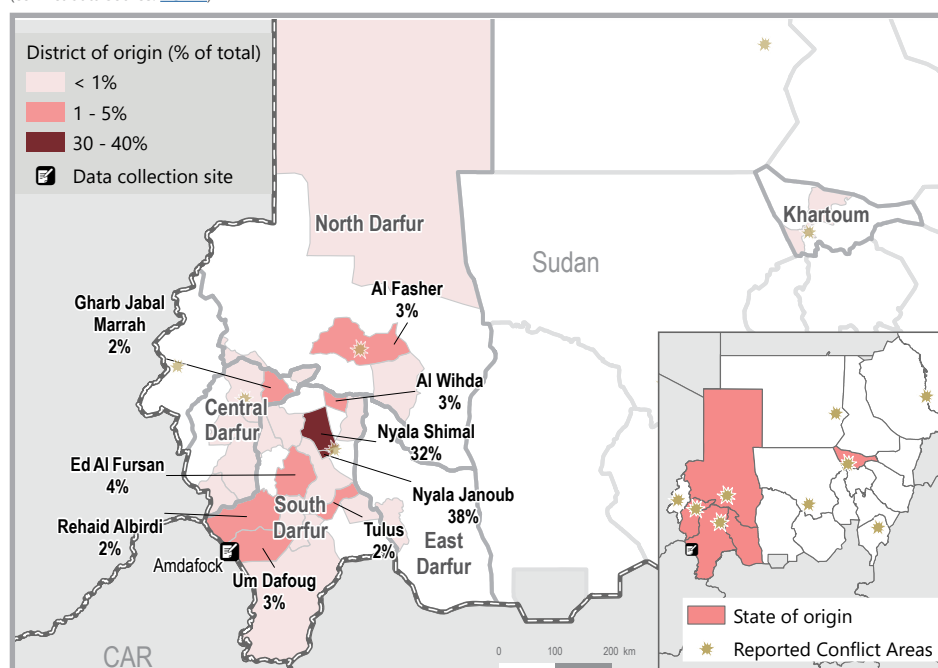
Conflict erupted in Sudan on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2023, leading to displacement of hundreds of thousands of Sudanese nationals into neighbouring countries. The conflict, subsequent displacement, and anticipated macroeconomic consequences are likely to exacerbate the already severe humanitarian situation in Sudan and its neighbouring countries.

Given the rapidly changing humanitarian context, REACH conducted a cross-border assessment to provide humanitarian actors with up-to-date information on the extent of humanitarian needs in shock-affected parts of Sudan and among recent arrivals in neighbouring countries.

This factsheet presents findings on the **demographics, immediate needs and displacement of households that have crossed the border into the Central African Republic**. Additional data and analysis from the cross-border assessment and other assessments of the crisis in Sudan can be accessed via *the Sudan Crisis Thread* on the [REACH website](#).

**Map 1: Reported regions of origin in Sudan**

(conflict data source: [ACLED](#))



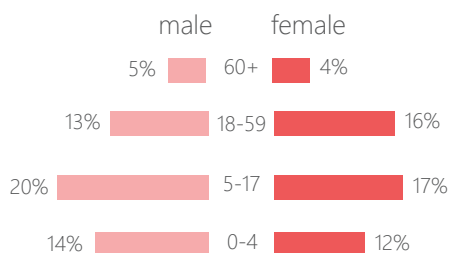
## ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

For this first round of data collection, REACH interviewers conducted structured interviews with **264 returnee and refugee households** entering the Central African Republic at relevant border crossing points between **May 23 and 26, 2023**. Respondents were asked about the current situation of their household in their area of displacement, their intentions to move, as well as the situation in their locality of origin.

The results are indicative and cannot be generalized to any known level of accuracy. For more information on the methodology, please refer to the dedicated section on page 3.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

% of individuals in interviewed households



Average household size: **8\***

\*Includes only household members who were currently travelling together

**44%** of households reported travelling with a pregnant or lactating woman

**40%** of respondents reported having been separated from one or more household members.

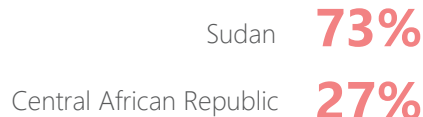
Among those respondents,

**57%** reported children in their household had been separated from both parents.

% of respondents by gender



% of respondents per nationality\*



**78%** of households stated that at least one member of their household did not have any identity papers.

## DISPLACEMENT & INTENTIONS

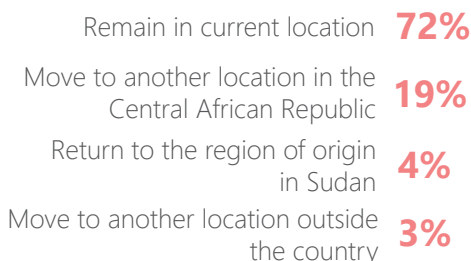
Top 3 most reported regions of origin

1. Nyala Janoub, South Darfur (38%)
2. Nyala Shimal, South Darfur (32%)
3. Ed Al Fursan, South Darfur (4%)

Top 3 most reported push factors\*\*

1. Active conflict in the locality of origin (87%)
2. Loss of livelihood (58%)
3. Desire to reunite with family who have already been displaced (41%)

Most reported intentions for the month following data collection



Among households who reported intending to stay in the Central African Republic, the principal intended destinations

1. Ridina (92%)
2. Bossembele (4%)

The majority of households intending to stay in their current locality or move to another locality in the country said they intended to go to an informal camp (47%) or a planned camp (46%).

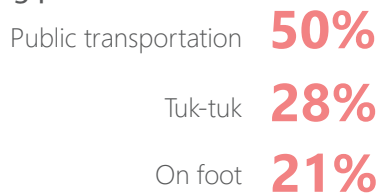
## REMAINING POPULATION\*

**161 key informants (KIs) (n=176) reported that people in their settlement of origin had been wanting to leave but had been unable to.** Fear for safety and/or security, road closures and people too weak to travel, or with a physical disability preventing travel, were the main reasons reported as barriers to travel, according to KIs.

\* The situation in settlements in Sudan was assessed through the Area of Knowledge method (see Methodology Overview). Findings from this part of the cross-border assessment can be found in a [dedicated factsheet](#).

## DISPLACEMENT JOURNEYS & PROTECTION

Most reported modes of transport used to travel to border crossing point



**27%** of households report that transport was one of three principle difficulties encountered when travelling\*\*\*. The main difficulties associated with transport are: **cost, security issues, and lack of fuel**. Households reported spending a median of **7,000 Sudanese pounds (SDG) per person (~11.6 USD)** on transport during their trip.

**20% households** reported having had to pay informal road or checkpoint taxation in Sudan while travelling.

**45%** of households reported having faced difficulties travelling to and/or entering the Central African Republic.

Among those respondents, most reported difficulties faced travelling to and/or entering the Central African Republic

Difficulty (% of households reporting difficulties, n=120)	Female respondents (n=93)	Male respondents (n=27)
Corruption (80%)	83%	70%
Lack of documents (75%)	76%	70%
Discrimination/racism (33%)	29%	44%
Victim of violence (33%)	31%	37%

\*\* Multiple-choice question, up to 3 possible answers.

\*\*\* Among households who report difficulties during their trip.

## PRIORITY NEEDS & ASSISTANCE PREFERENCES

Top 3 most reported main priority needs, by % of interviewed households



Food assistance  
(in kind)

**68%**



Water

**56%**



Shelter

**47%**

Among households that declared non-food items (NFIs) to be one of their most urgent needs (22%), the most cited types of NFI were sleeping mats/mattresses, jerrycans/water containers and plasting sheeting/ tarpaulins.

Top 3 most preferred modalities of assistance\*\*

1. In-kind assistance (91%)
2. Multi-purpose cash (32%)
3. Vouchers (21%)

Most reported main information needs, by % of interviewed households

Where to find accommodation **40%**

How to access humanitarian assistance **36%**

How to re-establish contact with relatives **35%**

How to access medical care **26%**

Most reported preferred ways of receiving information, by % of interviewed households

By telephone **29%**

In person **27%**

From family/friends **25%**

## METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

**Time of data collection:** 23-26 May 2023

In the absence of a comprehensive needs assessment on the situation in Sudan and neighbouring countries, the assessment consisted of two components to cover, as best as possible, the situation in areas of origin in Sudan as well as the situation of recent arrivals in the Central African Republic.

The first component consisted of a structured household survey with returnees and refugees crossing the Sudan-Central African Republic border. In total, **264 households** were interviewed about their current situation and movement intentions for this round of data collection.

For the second component, household survey interviewees were asked to act as a key informant (KI) and report on behalf of their community in their settlement of origin about the situation. Respondents were selected for the KI component if they 1) reported that there were still people living in their settlement of origin and 2) confirmed that they felt knowledgeable on the situation in their settlement of origin since the 15th of April. In total, enumerators interviewed **176 KIs** among those households. All interviews were conducted at border crossing points and in reception centers by trained enumerators. Findings for this component are presented separately and can be accessed [here](#).

Due to the purposive sampling, for both components, findings are not generalisable with a known level of precision and should be considered indicative only. As more information becomes available, it is recommended to triangulate findings with updated information where possible.

For more information on the sampling tools and methods used, please refer to the Research Terms of Reference (ToR) and the Detailed Analysis Plan (DAP), which will be made available [here](#).

New data, analysis, and outputs from other assessments on the Sudan conflict will be made available on the [Sudan Crisis Thread](#) on the REACH website.

### ABOUT REACH

REACH Initiative facilitates the development of information tools and products that enhance the capacity of aid actors to make evidence-based decisions in emergency, recovery and development contexts. The methodologies used by REACH include primary data collection and in-depth analysis, and all activities are conducted through inter-agency aid coordination mechanisms. REACH is a joint initiative of IMPACT Initiatives, ACTED and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research - Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNITAR-UNOSAT).

\*\* Multiple-choice question, up to 3 possible answers.