The COVID-19 pandemic started affecting Chad mid-March 2020, with the first confirmed case identified on 19 March 2020. As of 13 May 2020, 399 COVID-19 cases have been confirmed in Chad (see the national sitrep #51). In addition to the potentiality severe consequences on public health of the epidemic, the COVID-19 crisis has also significantly affected mobility to, from and internal to the country. Since early March 2020, mobility and travel restrictions – notably the closure of all air and land borders and strict internal movement limitations – have resulted in a decrease in migration flows observed in the north, as well as thousands of individuals stranded at key Points of Entry (PoEs) or in the country.

Through its Flow Monitoring activities, DTM has registered a significant drop in the average daily number of travellers observed at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) of Faya and Zouarké in northern Chad, since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in the country. From February to March 2020, this number went from 812 to 630, decreasing by 22 per cent (see the March 2020 Flow Monitoring Registry report) and reversing the upward trend in population flows observed since December 2019. It should be noted that FMPs in Chad were temporarily rendered inactive at the beginning of April 2020 in order to take adaptive measures in the current COVID-19 context.

Despite the official closure of all air and land borders to contain and limit the spread of COVID-19 from neighbouring countries, a number of travellers still cross land border entry points. These travellers are mostly Chadian students returning from Cameroon, or individuals deported from Libya to the town of Ounianga Kébir (Ennedi-Ouest Province). They are placed in quarantine for 14 days and often rely on humanitarian assistance or individuals deported from Libya and placed in quarantine for 14 days and often rely on humanitarian assistance or individuals deported from Libya.

No case has been reported yet among IDPs. These populations live in largely unsanitary conditions, with limited access to WASH* and PPE* (87 per cent of locations assessed during Round 10 lack proper access to toilets). Access to health services is also very poor in Lac Province. Only 25 per cent of locations have access to health services, most of which are provided by mobile clinics which are not sufficiently equipped to take care of COVID-19 patients (data from DTM Round 10). In addition, high population density in overcrowded sites, where social distancing measures are near impossible to put in place, multiplies health risks. The DTM Round 11, which included collection of data related to COVID-19 in IDP communities, was completed on 4 May. Data analysis is ongoing.

**COVID-19 in Lac Province**

Following recurrent armed attacks that have been occurring for more than five years in the Lake Chad basin, Lac Province hosts 272,000 displaced persons, including 208,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) (see the DTM Round 10 dashboard). The COVID-19 outbreak could significantly worsen the current crisis. As of 1 May 2020, 1 COVID-19 case has been confirmed in the capital of Lac Province, Bol, which hosts 39,000 IDPs. Currently, 13 close contacts of the infected person are quarantined.

**FORCED DISPLACEMENT**

**LAC PROVINCE**

1,200 IDPs* (240 HH) displaced preventively due to the fear of armed attacks (see ETT #46)

**MOYEN-CHARI PROVINCE**

2,062 IDPs* (430 HH) displaced due to floods (see ETT #48)

**MAYO-KEBBI EST PROVINCE**

379 IDPs* (50 HH) displaced due to fires (ETT #51)

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**AFFECTED POPULATIONS AT BORDER POINTS OR IN THE COUNTRY**

Despite the official closure of all air and land borders to contain and limit the spread of COVID-19 from neighbouring countries, a number of travellers still cross land border entry points. These travellers are mostly Chadian students returning from Cameroon, or individuals deported from Libya to the town of Ounianga Kébir (Ennedi-Ouest Province). They are placed in quarantine for 14 days and often rely on humanitarian assistance or support from their families to meet their daily needs and to return home safely. In addition, 206 TCNs* awaiting to return home are hosted in IOM transit centres.

**AVG DAILY NUMBER OF TRAVELLERS OBSERVED IN THE NORTH**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Number of Travellers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 2019</td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2019</td>
<td>439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 2019</td>
<td>299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2020</td>
<td>497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 2020</td>
<td>812</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2020</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Through its Flow Monitoring activities, DTM has registered a significant drop in the average daily number of travellers observed at the Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs) of Faya and Zouarké in northern Chad, since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in the country. From February to March 2020, this number went from 812 to 630, decreasing by 22 per cent (see the March 2020 Flow Monitoring Registry report) and reversing the upward trend in population flows observed since December 2019. It should be noted that FMPs in Chad were temporarily rendered inactive at the beginning of April 2020 in order to take adaptive measures in the current COVID-19 context.

**2,000+ students stranded at the Cameroon border**

(see the latest ETT report + a report on these travellers’ profiles)

**320+ individuals deported from Libya and placed in quarantine**

**206 TCNs* stranded in Chad and hosted in IOM transit centres**

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**NOTES**

- **Acronyms:** IDPs = Internally Displaced Persons | PPE = Personal Protective Equipment | TCNs = Third Country Nationals | WASH = Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

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**WEBSITES:**

https://migration.iom.int / https://dtm.iom.int/chad

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**DTM ACTIVITIES ARE SUPPORTED BY:**

United Nations CERF Central Emergency Response Fund

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Republic of Korea

European Union

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION**

When quoting paraphrasing or in any other way using the information mentioned in this report, the source needs to be stated appropriately as follows: “Source: The International Organization for Migration (Month, Year), Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)”