

IMPACT on IDPs

Weekly Update • 11th June 2020



COVID-19 Mobility Impacts Update Series

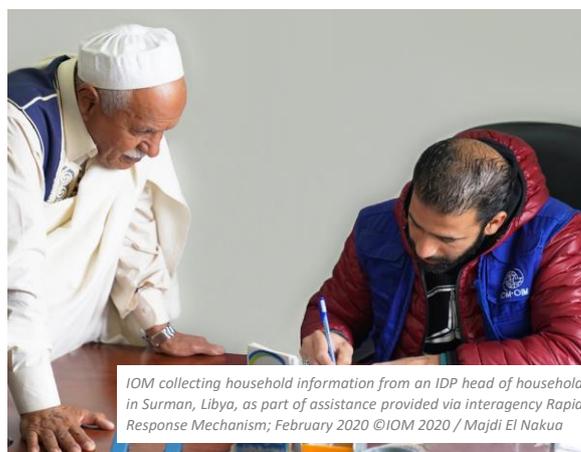
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Important: Important: This update strives to use terms in conformity with the IOM's Glossary on Migration to describe issues faced by Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak. Given the sensitive nature of the information, those terms are used to the best of our knowledge and within the limit of our possibilities to confirm political correctness while producing a weekly update. The update is **external** and the information contained in it is **sensitive**. Corrections are very welcomed and should be submitted to DTM COVID-19 dtmccovid19idps@iom.int for ensuring consistency of information in the database repository.

Weekly updates on "Impact on IDPs" are a collaboration between DTM and CCCM in drafting and reviewing; MHD, PRD and TRD in technical guidance and sharing of files. The objective of these reports is to gather better situational awareness of the spread and impact of COVID-19 among internally displaced populations globally, with a view to ensuring better public health response and accountability for provision of care to vulnerable populations. The methodology includes integrating direct reporting from IOM Regional Offices and Country Missions, IOM sitreps, IOM files and media outlets, as well as public media outlets. Sources are weighed for relevance and accuracy, and then condensed into summaries by country. Instances of reported cases of IDPs with COVID-19 are checked for confirmation and monitored for continuing developments. Limitations include dependence on IDP cases being reported in public media. Cases emerging in countries without IOM presence and/or that go unreported in the media could be potential blind spots. For feedback, corrections, additions or removal from mailing list please get in touch with DTM COVID-19 dtmccovid19idps@iom.int.

■ Summary

People affected by humanitarian crises, particularly those displaced and living in communal settings, are often faced with challenges including vulnerabilities distinct from those of the general population. These vulnerabilities are further heightened by the disparate health and socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. As recently reported by IDMC, [global figures of internally displaced persons \(IDPs\)](#) reached an all-time high at the end of 2019. Conflict and disasters have triggered 33.4 million new internal displacements across 145 countries and territories in 2019. In particular, the number of new disaster related IDPs have increased to 24.9 million in 2019 (compared to 17.2 million in 2018). This is the highest figure recorded since 2012 and three times the number of new displacements caused by conflict and violence.



The movement restrictions and measures being imposed by countries, territories and areas as a response to the pandemic are directly impacting the daily lives and circumstances of IDPs and host communities. Livelihoods are being interrupted and access to healthcare, where it is available, remains limited. Many communities hosting internally displaced populations lack adequate investment into health, water and sanitation facilities, in addition to the issues of overcrowding, poor shelter, scarce resources and limited access to reliable information. The impact felt by these communities not only increases humanitarian need but also exasperates the existing and already complex barriers for IDPs to seek solutions..

■ Key Highlights

- **Reported Cases:** As of 11th June 2020, there are twenty-two confirmed COVID-19 cases reported among IDPs, with a total of 2 in Nigeria, 1 in Iraq, 2 in Somalia, 8 in Mali and 9 in South Sudan. It is most likely that number of COVID-19 cases amongst IDP populations are largely under-reported.

Reporting Period	Location	Cases Reported among IDPs	Source (Reported by)
30 April – 6 May 2020	Nigeria	1	IOM and Media outlet
30 April – 6 May 2020	Somalia	1	Confirmed by the Ministry of Health in Jubbaland
7- 14 May 2020	South Sudan	1	South Sudan's High-Level Task Force
22 – 28 May 2020	Iraq	1	Confirmed by WHO, OCHA, the Directorate of Health and the Ministry of Health
22-28 May 2020	Mali	3	Mopti (UN, confirmed by WHO)
29 May – 4 June	Mali	5	Mopti (UN, confirmed by WHO)
29 May – 4 June	South Sudan	7	Juba Camp Management Agency update
5 June – 11 June	South Sudan	1	In Bentiu PoC
5 June – 11 June	Somalia	1	In Baidoa (Camp Management Agency update)
5 June – 11 June	Nigeria	1	In Dalori 2 Camp (confirmed by WHO)

Table 1: Summary of COVID-19 cases in IDP locations by date, location and source

- Restrictions of Movement:** Measures implemented by governments to limit the spread of COVID-19 also directly impact the movement of IDPs in and out of sites. In some countries (e.g. Nigeria, Sudan, and Iraq) specific camp measures have been implemented affecting potential movement of returns, as well as livelihood activities. Certain countries (Nigeria) are slowly lifting mobility restrictions (lockdowns) which will likely impact service access in camps. In Iraq, service delivery to some formal IDP camps improved due to easing of movement restrictions but service delivery remains a challenge in nine camps out of 62 camps where humanitarian actors have recorded partial or no-access to the camps.
- Challenges on Access to Assistance and Services:** Lockdowns and restricted access to camps in places such as Iraq and Uganda have meant that provisions of goods and services to IDP populations have been reduced. For many countries, movement restriction also prohibits IDPs capacity to access livelihood opportunities, putting further pressures on their ability to supplement limited aid. Concerns that delayed preparedness and contingency actions for the coming monsoon seasons, considered non-essential, will increase the risk and vulnerabilities for IDPs in the coming months.
- Mitigation Measures:** IOM is working with partners and local authorities to put in place mitigation measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and improve health and hygiene conditions and access in displacement sites. Humanitarian partners have also put in place measures to ensure life-saving services can continue in sites despite movement restrictions for staff and continue to prepare for remote management scenarios in case some sites become inaccessible.

Regional Overview

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Afghanistan: As of 9th June 2020, data from the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) shows that 20,917 people across all 34 provinces in Afghanistan are now confirmed to have COVID-19. Cases are expected to continue to increase during the weeks ahead as community transmission escalates, putting additional burdens onto Afghanistan's economy and people's well-being.

Myanmar: As of 11th June 2020, in addition to conducting COVID-19 prevention awareness campaigns in IDPs Sites, IOM has distributed 1,560 fuel stick bags for 260 HH in two IDP sites location in Minbya for three months and distributed 21 energy efficient stove to the persons who have not receive it last time. In Mrauk-U township,

IOM in collaboration with People In Need (PIN) has conducted drainage assessment in six IDP camps for drainage construction.

Pakistan: The number of IDPs in Pakistan as of 10th June 2020 is 16,483 families or 98,898 individuals, all of them are displaced in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province due to the combination of disaster and complex crises. Among these IDPs, 2,041 families or 10,091 individuals are living in Bakka Khel Camp. Origin of IDPs living in the camp is North Waziristan Tribal Agency (NWA).

So far, no COVID-19 cases were reported among IDPs living in Bakka Khel camp. However, an isolation center has been established and maintained administered by the Army in the camp.

Philippines: While restrictions have slowly eased in most places in the country and more so in provinces with displaced populations where there are significantly fewer cases, multiple restriction measures continue to be implemented in these areas that affect IDP movement and access to services. Physical distancing limits income-generating activities such as in the transportation sector. It also limits access to services as response actors are limited in their movements around and in these provinces. Local government units (LGU) have begun construction for relocation sites for IDPs displaced by the earthquakes but these are dependent on the movements allowed by the LGU.

Between the 4th and 11th June 2020, IOM Kidapawan in the province of North Cotabato has supported 4 evacuation centres, 64 facilities including 8 WASH and 2 health facilities, while providing assistance to 101 workers through cash-for-work programs. Latest available data shows the IDP population remains at 290,469 persons in North Cotabato, Davao del Sur and Marawi City. No COVID-19 cases have been reported inside the evacuation centres.

Vanuatu: In the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Harold striking Vanuatu in early April 2020, the country is now facing dual challenge of responding to this Category 5 Cyclone and preventing /preparing for COVID-19. IOM and the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office are now concluding a DTM assessment to understand the locations, movements and needs of the those who have been displaced from this hurricane, as well as the identifying the locations of active evacuation centres. To date, no cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the country

EAST AFRICA AND THE HORN OF AFRICA

Burundi: As of 9th June 2020, Burundi has reported a total of 83 COVID-19 cases with 45 recovered and 1 death. None of the cases were reported among the 117,239 IDPs or returnees. Burundi currently has no specific movement restrictions impacting IDPs, DTM assessments are being carried out through remote data collection, leveraging the existing network of 4,000 key informants across the country. As for the Flow Monitoring, DTM continues to observe population movements at some unofficial points border with DRC (Cibitoke province) and Tanzania (Muyinga, Cankuzo and Ruyigi provinces).

Ethiopia: As of 9th June 2020, a total of 2,336 CoVID-19 cases with 379 recoveries and 32 deaths have been recorded in Ethiopia. The situation has not changed since last week, as none of these cases were reported amongst the 1.7M IDP nor the 1.4M returning IDP caseloads, though contact tracing is in place and has in some instances included individuals from these caseloads. While the mobility restrictions in country have led to alternate implementation modalities, there have not been any significant hinderances to the delivery of humanitarian assistance to date.

Recent weeks have shown an increase in climate-related displacement incidents and there have also been reports of conflict-induced displacement, though the general trend reflects a decrease in conflict. The event tracking tool has been amplified through the deployment of dedicated enumerators to optimize running information updates in between regular rounds of mobility tracking. IOM is supporting site management officials nationwide by disseminating COVID-19 awareness materials, as well as supporting quarantine facility assessments.

Somalia: As of 9th June 2020, 2,416 COVID-19 cases with 489 recovered and 85 deaths have been recorded in the country. In Arshad IDP site in Holwadak, Baidoa managed by ACTED, an individual was tested positive to COVID-19, while other two suspected cases in sites managed by IOM were tested and were confirmed to be

negative. All 3 suspected cases were tested by MOH through the support of WHO. An IDP with suspected COVID-19 infection travelled from Doolow to Mogadishu. Test results are still pending as following his death. At the time of this reporting, all samples tested among IDPs in Doolow have come back negative. The CCCM teams are coordinating closely with MOH and WHO in ensuring awareness and accurate information is passed to IDPs. IOM is also monitoring cases of stigmatization of suspected cases families. IDPs' livelihoods have been affected as some used to do domestic work at host community's houses but are no longer allowed in for fear of COVID-19. The "triple threat" (COVID-19, Gu' rainfall season and desert locust), along with Eid and Ramadan holidays in May led to increases in food prices across Somalia. The rains have subsided in most locations. To mitigate the food security implications, humanitarian partners have proactively adapted food security support in line with COVID-19 measures by providing combined two-month food rations and scaling up food assistance. OCHA reported that the virus has exacerbated existing socio-economic vulnerabilities.

South Sudan: Ministry of Health confirmed 1,604 positive COVID-19 cases in South Sudan (20 deaths, 15 recovered) as of 9th June 2020. According to available data, positive samples were collected across 10 different counties (Wau, Aweil Centre, Abiyei, Rubkona, Rumbek Centre, Yei, Juba, Torit, Akobo, Fangak, Malakal) in 8 states and Abyei Administrative Area. Out of the total, nine cases are confirmed within UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites (7 in Juba and 2 in Bentiu, 1 during this reporting period). Counties with identified COVID-19 cases host close to a third of the overall country's IDP caseload (27% of 1,665,815).

Inter-communal violence and flooding continued causing new and secondary displacements. DTM tracked more than 8,000 individuals displaced in Mayom, Rubkona, Guit and Mayendit counties between 12th May and 2nd June 2020. In addition, some 12,300 IDPs moved to highlands surrounding Bor Town and adjacent payams due to flooding caused by the overflow of the River Nile. UNMISS, UNPOL and humanitarian partners continued implementing policy of reduced footprint within PoCs. Security situation in Bentiu PoC and Juba PoC 3 deteriorated in the past week due to clashes between the communities on site. There are no indications that these are related to COVID-19, however, rising tensions compromise adherence to the COVID-19 preventive measures imposed on site. Camp management of Wau PoC Adjacent Area (AA) undertook measures for decongestion by allocating additional space to large families. Still, physical space and the layout of displacement sites pose a major concern over the success of the implementation of COVID-19 preventive measures.

Uganda: There is a cumulative number of 665 COVID-19 cases with zero deaths, and 119 recoveries as of 9th June 2020. The Government continues to restrict movement of people to and from camps which are in border districts and the ban on both private and public transport to and from border districts continues in an effort to minimize the possible spread of COVID-19. The Government of Uganda continues to aid the population through the national COVID-19 taskforce, and district task force at national and district level, respectively. The national taskforce provides food aid to households in the central region. Private initiatives to aid needy communities continues to be channeled through the district task force. Delivery of assistance and emergency response interventions is done through approvals from the Office of the Prime minister – National level, Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) at the respective beneficiary district, Resident District Commissioners who represent the President at the district level, District Health Office and Chairperson Local Council 5. At settlement level, reduction in food ratio assistance continues to remain a challenge, posing a big risk as some people try to escape from one camp to another to find supplementary food, therefore increasing the risk of spread of the virus.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Libya: As of 10 June 2020

Iraq: As of 10th June 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has confirmed 14,268 cases of COVID-19 in Iraq; 392 fatalities and 5,831 patients who have recovered from the virus. According to the latest DTM Master List Report 115 (29 April), DTM Iraq identified 1,389,540 IDPs (231,590 households) dispersed across 18 governorates and 104 districts. The top three governorates of displacement are Ninewa, Dahuk and Erbil. According to WHO, the number of confirmed cases in these governorates are 431 in Erbil, 103 in Dahuk and 60 in Ninewa.

As of 8th June 2020, a new case of COVID-19 has been confirmed in the Sulaymaniyah in the Kurdistan Region, Tazade Camp; managed by the local authorities with UNHCR support.; and on Monday another case was confirmed and another 5 suspected in Ashti camp, also managed by the local authorities, SJCC, under UNHCR funding. This governorate is starting to see their Health System collapsing, patients are at hotels according to the local newspapers. The suspected cases in Anbar on the K7 informal site were negative. On the previous case on the camp in the dispute territories, Hasan Sham U3, managed by BCF and UNHCR, the suspected person was isolated on time and nobody in the camp got infected.

Sudan: As of 10th June 2020, the number of confirmed cases has reached 6,242 across all 18 states in the country, with the majority of cases from Khartoum State. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Sudan (GoS) declared a nationwide emergency and introduced mitigation measures in March 2020 to curb the spread of the virus. The Darfur region hosts the largest population of internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in protracted displacement across all five states in the region. Currently, no cases of COVID-19 have been reported in the IDP camps. IOM, together with UNHCR, is co-leading the COVID-19 Camp Coordination Taskforce to monitor and coordinate services and need in displacement sites. Mobility restrictions have impacted movement of IDP students and gold miners wanting to return to locations of origin.

The most recent reports from key informants indicate a total of 754 IDPs studying in Khartoum, 29 in South Darfur and 8 in Northern State who are currently stranded and unable to return home to IDP sites across North, South and West Darfur. An additional 250 IDP working in Northern State (155) and South Darfur (95) are also reportedly unable to return home to IDP camps across West, North and South Darfur

Syrian Arab Republic: The highest priority needs for IDPs displaced over the month of May (34,211 individuals) are livelihoods, basic services and education. In Idleb, where over half of the IDPs that were displaced in May 2020, food was also reported along with livelihoods and basic services. Many of these needs are deeply exacerbated by not only the mitigatory measures taken in response to COVID-19 (most obvious in the case of education, due to school closures), but also by the economic downturn that has been, at least in part, a result of restrictions in the movement of goods and services, along with the deterioration of the Syrian pound combined with rising prices.

Recently, however, there are signs that COVID-19-related restrictions being eased. According to data collected over the 6th and 7th June 2020, total community lockdowns are almost non-existent throughout the country, while partial curfews are only being reported in areas under Syrian Democratic Forces' control (north-east Syria). Furthermore, bakeries are now open across most of the country, public and private health facilities are also fully operational throughout most of the country, and schools have partially opened in 49 percent of sub-districts in north-west Syrian Arab Republic.

According to data collected over the 8th and 9th June 2020, travel limitations at two international border points in the north-east of the country (Al-Hasakeh governorate) have been eased – now notably allowing individuals trading agricultural products to traverse between Iraq, Turkey, and the Syrian Arab Republic. On the other hand, as of 7th June 2020, domestic transit points, which had previously been re-opened on a trial basis, were once again reinstated with restrictive measures.

Yemen: Between 31st May and 6th June 2020, the highest number of displacements were observed in Al Maharah (408 HH) and Shabwah (352 HH) governorates due to heavy rains and flooding (natural disaster). 187 HH households were displaced from Aden due to the fear of the spread of COVID-19 given poor sanitary conditions in the areas of displacement.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Mozambique: IOM Mozambique CCCM Teams are tracking new entries into six resettlement sites in Buzi district, Sofala province in coordination with site COVID-19 Committees; in the past two weeks, 90 new arrivals have been registered, who are individuals coming to join family members. IOM coordinates with district level health authorities in Buzi and Dombe districts and site committees to pass key prevention and quarantine messages to new arrivals;

these include handwashing, isolation and physical distancing. In the 72 resettlement sites in the central region, where over 95,000 individuals reside, action has been taken for prevention and control in 97% of sites, and reportedly people living in all the sites have been informed of COVID-19 precaution measures.

Zimbabwe: IOM Zimbabwe has resumed CCCM activities to provide technical support to the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ), in the management and coordination of four (4) remaining displacement sites following Cyclone Idai that struck the country in March 2019. Activities will be oriented toward relocalizations of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in a new land with transitional shelters. The GoZ will assist in the construction of permanent houses, to avoid overcrowding and health risks, and will provide a sustainable and long-term solutions to displaced population in a dignified manner. A camp exit strategy will be set into place and land reparation will also be conducted, to ensure host communities have the appropriate space.

WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

Chad: In preparedness and response to COVID-19, IOM provided the WASH cluster with 30 handwashing stations dispatched to displacement sites, to improve hygiene services amongst host and IDP communities. Furthermore, IOM has distributed 400 hygiene kits and is constructing 220 new shelters for displaced populations to support decongestion efforts. Local authorities have organized the transfer of nearly 12,500 IDPs (4,706 households) from Diameron, a vast area declared a war zone by the government of Chad in March 2020, to Amma where the IDPs will be able to access humanitarian assistance. To ensure rapid and adapted support to the relocated IDPs, the humanitarian community conducted an inter-agency multisectoral assessment in early June 2020 to assess assistance needs in the new area of displacement.

Mali: Close to 1,000 IDPs living 17 IDP sites in Mopti and Gao regions were sensitized. Over 2,200 protective masks were produced by IOM beneficiaries. In Mopti, over 1,500 PPE were distributed on eight sites.

Mali: A new case of COVID-19 was confirmed by WHO for an IDP living in Dalori 2 camp in NE Nigeria. In Bakassi camp, in coordination with the World Health Organization and the Ministry of Health, IOM facilitated the relocation of an IDP with COVID-19 to the isolation center in Maiduguri in early May 2020. Coordination efforts have also ensured contact tracing and monitoring of the health status of the family members to limit further exposure within the IDP camp. By end of May 2020, IOM had finalized rehabilitation of ten buildings in Ngala, and built 28 Self-Quarantine (SQ) Units in displacement camps in Gwoza and Pulka to support camp decongestion efforts in Nigeria. Rehabilitation of two additional buildings in Gwoza and construction of an additional 56 SQs is also underway for sites in Monguno, Damboa and Bama. IOM is working with MoH and Health Sector to finalise SOPs for management and maintenance of the SQ Units.

■ Key Resources

Global:

- [DTM Portals \(migration.iom.int and displacement.iom.int\)](https://migration.iom.int)
- [IOM COVID-19 Camp Management Operational Guidance Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Africa Center for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- [Global figures of internally displaced persons \(IDMC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization Situation Reports](#)
- [Impact On Points Of Entry Weekly Analysis 10 June 2020](#)
- [Impact On Key Locations of Internal Mobility Weekly Analysis 10 June 2020](#)
- [IOM COVID 19 Response - Situation Report 17 \(29 May 2020\)](#)
- [IOM COVID 19 Response - Situation Report 18 \(5 June 2020\)](#)
- [DTM-Covid19 Travel Restrictions Output — 8 June 2020](#)

Regional:

- [SitRep #2 - Southern Africa - 4 June 2020.pdf](#)

- [West and Central Africa — COVID-19 — Evidence and Trends on Migrant Flows Along Central Mediterranean Route: Impact of Covid-19 on Mobility \(June 2020\)](#)
- [Impact Of COVID-19 Movement Restrictions On Migrants Along The Eastern Corridor 3 \(as of 31 May 2020\)](#)
- [IOM MENA Region COVID 19 Response - Situation Report 4 \(14 May - 28 May 2020\)](#)
- [IOM SEECA Region - COVID 19 Weekly Overview 10 \(4 June 2020\)](#)
- [Middle East And North Africa — Tracking Mobility Impact: Point Of Entry Analysis \(4 June 2020\)](#)

Country:

- [Sudan — Mobility Restriction Dashboard 7 \(11 June 2020\)](#)
- [Panama- Emergency Tracking: Migratory Receiving Stations and COVID-19 Pandemic \(22-28 May 2020\)](#)
- [Libya — IDP & Returnee Report, Round 30 \(Mar-Apr 2020\)](#)
- [Chad — COVID-19 — Mobility Restrictions \(May 2020\)](#)
- [South Sudan — Bentiu PoC Site Population Count \(May2020\)](#)
- [Nigeria — COVID-19 Point of Entry Dashboard \(30 May - 5 June 2020\)](#)
- [Djibouti — Stranded Migrants \(7 June 2020\)](#)
- [Mali - COVID 19 Point of Entry Dashboard \(June 2020\)](#)
- [Chad — COVID-19 — Event Tracking Tool Report 6 \(04 June 2020\)](#)