



*A member of the International Medical Corps medical team provides a consultation and medication to Sudanese refugees in Kufra.*

The conflict in Sudan has driven more than 11 million people from their homes since mid-April 2023, with more than 2 million seeking refuge in neighboring countries. A significant number of these displaced communities have found shelter in Kufra, a remote and sparsely populated region in southeastern Libya. According to UNHCR, Libya now hosts an estimated 180,000 Sudanese refugees. Recent data from Libya's national health authorities reveal that more than 92,000 adult Sudanese refugees have resided in Kufra since January. This figure accounts only for people aged 18 and above, as registration through Libya's Ministry of Health requires health certificates, which are limited to adults—suggesting that actual numbers are likely higher. The influx continues steadily, with approximately 300 to 400 new arrivals moving into informal camps daily. International Medical Corps field team observations indicate that most of these new arrivals consist of families, with children making up a significant portion.

Sudanese refugees are enduring harsh living conditions, which are expected to worsen as winter nears and more individuals arrive in Libya, particularly in Kufra. In some instances, settlement owners have demanded that refugees vacate immediately, forcing them to relocate to other camps or find rental housing. Refugees are also grappling with numerous challenges, including insufficient healthcare services, poor shelter conditions, limited availability of clean water and a lack of adequate food supplies. Similarly, Sudanese refugees in other Libyan regions are experiencing severe hardships, as humanitarian needs remain unmet in multiple locations.

International Medical Corps continues to monitor the living conditions of Sudanese refugees residing in other cities, in coordination with the Sudanese Community Representation. Based on the records of the Sudanese Community Representation in Misrata, 1,200 families, with an average of four to six members each, have been registered since the outbreak of the conflict in Sudan in April 2023. These families are grappling with serious challenges, including limited access to healthcare, urgent psychosocial support needs and shortages of essential items like blankets and mattresses.

### FAST FACTS

- The conflict in Sudan has displaced more than 11 million people, including more than 2 million who have sought refuge in neighboring countries—100,000 of whom have arrived in Libya.
- The Ministry of Health reports that about 92,000 Sudanese refugees have arrived in Kufra, raising urgent concerns about a potential humanitarian crisis if swift aid is not provided.
- Ensuring that displaced communities receive timely assistance is crucial. There is a need to provide access to healthcare, mental health support, food, shelter and essential household items.

### OUR FOOTPRINT

- International Medical Corps was the first global humanitarian organization in Libya when the conflict began in 2011, and has since been providing critical health, nutrition, protection, mental health and psychosocial support, and water, sanitation and hygiene services.

### OUR RESPONSE

- In Kufra, our medical team has conducted 10,339 consultations and distributed essential medical supplies and consumables in informal settlements and the city's primary hospital.

## International Medical Corps Response

---

International Medical Corps has been collaborating closely with local authorities to ensure access to the Kufra and provide critical humanitarian assistance to both Sudanese refugees and host communities in Kufra. We offer our key services—including healthcare, mental health support and protection—daily at Alshaheed Atia Hospital, the city's primary hospital, the Refugees Admission Health Center and six informal settlement locations. So far, we have provided 10,339 consultations and 194 referrals for specialized care at nearby facilities.

In response to increasing healthcare demands, International Medical Corps has relocated one of its two mobile medical teams to the Refugee Admission Health Center (previously named the Isolation Center). International Medical Corps' health teams now provide daily primary healthcare services, including consultations, distribution of medication and support for nursing, in close coordination with the center's management and international partners.

Recognizing the importance of health education in improving the overall well-being of the communities, International Medical Corps' community health workers (CHWs) started to deliver health awareness sessions at the settlements in early November. These sessions are tailored to address urgent health needs and focus on infection prevention, personal hygiene, diabetes, hypertension and basic nutrition. Our team has so far conducted 37 sessions, reaching 373 refugees. In response to community needs and priorities, our CHWs are preparing to extend these sessions to the host community at the two supported health facilities.

International Medical Corps is working in close coordination with health authorities, including the Kufra Emergency Cell and the Ministry of Health (MoH), as well as with other international partners through both the Sudan Response Health Taskforce and the Inter-Agency Working Group, to prevent overlap and maximize the delivery of health services as needed.

In response to the needs expressed by the Refugees Admission Health Center's manager, from November 10 to 18 International Medical Corps nurses conducted on-the-job tutorials for eight nurses nominated by the MoH. These on-the-job tutorials include a theoretical component on basic nursing skills and hands-on practice in wound care, administration of intravenous medication and measuring vital signs. Nurses have had opportunities to apply their skills with patients under supervision, and we assessed their readiness for deployment to the health center at the end of the training.

From November 7 to 14, our Misrata field manager facilitated the vaccination of 50 Sudanese children as part of the national vaccination campaign organized by the National Center for Disease Control. Our field staff coordinated with the Sudanese Community Representative in Misrata and the Health Service Office in the city to ensure that the children received vaccines for polio and measles, strengthening public health within the community.