

## SITUATION UPDATE



*Tunaydbah refugee camp, Sudan.*

### FAST FACTS

- International Medical Corps' eight mobile health and nutrition teams in Shire, Shiraro and Axum woredas carried out 2,427 outpatient consultations in the last two weeks.
- In Hamdeyet refugee camp, International Medical Corps has so far trained 22 community leaders and 16 community mobilizers, who have screened 165 people for COVID-19.
- Between May 24 and May 31 in Humera, Wolkayit and Tsegede woredas, we screened 1,732 children under five for malnutrition, and found 443 moderate acute malnutrition cases and 54 severe acute malnutrition cases.

The ongoing conflict between the Ethiopian National Defense Force and the Tigray People's Liberation Front remains highly complex. As a result of the ongoing violence in the Ethiopian regions of Tigray and Benishangul-Gumuz, approximately 63,000 Ethiopian refugees have had to flee to Sudan, entering through three states: Kassala, Gedaref and Blue Nile. Though the refugees in Kasala and Blue Nile typically stay with relatives and in host communities, the remaining refugees are residing in four locations near the Ethiopian border, including 18,572 refugees in Umuraoka refugee camp, 22,906 in Tunaydba refugee camp, 2,508 in Village 8 of Gedarif state and 18,694 at Hymdayet Reception Center. The humanitarian community is responding to the health, nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs, and working to protect the camps against flooding, as the rainy season begins in mid-June.

To date, the conflict in the region has led to the internal displacement of more than 2 million people. As a result, more than 5 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance, including food aid, healthcare and WASH services. Malnutrition among children remains a concern, as 21% of the 21,000 children under five screened for malnutrition were identified with severe wasting. The humanitarian community is striving to respond to ongoing needs in the region; however, access to Tigray remains a challenge and there are reports of humanitarian supplies being confiscated. There also are growing concerns regarding raids at camps in Shire, including one on May 24, in which 200 people were arrested.<sup>1</sup> The humanitarian community is remaining vigilant and continues to respond to rising needs.

## International Medical Corps Response

### Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, International Medical Corps has been providing outpatient consultations, nutrition screening, antenatal consultations, family planning services and health education through its eight operational mobile health and nutrition teams in Shire, Shiraro and Axum. The teams are covering 12 camps and a population of around 304,480 across the three towns. On June 7, Wukardba camp was assigned to International Medical Corps, meaning we are now operating in seven sites in the town of Shire.

<sup>1</sup> UNOCHA: Ethiopia Tigray Region Humanitarian Update, June 3, 2021. <https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/ethiopia/>

Between May 24 and June 6, the mobile health and nutrition teams provided 7,643 outpatient consultations, which included 1,659 children under five. We screened 2,995 children under five, and 682 pregnant and lactating women, for acute malnutrition. We provided family planning services to 38 people, provided mental health counselling services to 73 people and carried out 258 antenatal and 63 postnatal consultations. During the reporting period, International Medical Corps also raised awareness on various health topics, including COVID-19, that reached more than 16,100 people.

We also are providing similar services in Dansha, where 2,269 individuals attended consultations and received treatment between June 1–6. In addition, within the reporting period, 231 children under five received various vaccines, such as the pentavalent and oral poliovirus vaccines, and 148 children over 15 years old received the measles vaccine.



*An International Medical Corps staff member raises awareness about COVID-19 vaccinations at Shire Preparatory School camp.*

International Medical Corps continued to carry out activities in Humera, Wolkayit and Tsegede woredas in the last two weeks. Between May 24–31, we provided 2,427 outpatient consultations, of which 471 were children under five. A total of 237 women received antenatal care services, 191 individuals received mental health counselling and 740 children aged 6 to 59 months received vitamin A supplements. During the reporting period, we provided nutritional screening services to 1,732 children under five; among them, we identified 443 as MAM cases and 54 as SAM cases.

In addition, International Medical Corps delivered Enhanced Child Health Days in Humera, Wolkayit and Tsegede woredas. Activities included mass MUAC screening, immunizations and information sharing on infant and young-child feeding. The team also educated a 7,090 people on health and nutrition topics between May 24–31, focusing in particular on priority public-health topics, such as COVID-19.

## **Sudan**

In the Hamdeyet refugee camp in Sudan, International Medical Corps has been conducting vital COVID-19 prevention activities, which has included helping community health volunteers to spread messages and information on COVID-19. International Medical Corps has now reached 2,532 people with our COVID-19 awareness-raising activities in the camp.

International Medical Corps also has distributed personal protective equipment (PPE), established 80 handwashing stations and trained 22 community leaders and 16 community mobilizers to identify and screen people with COVID-19 symptoms. Community leaders and mobilizers have so far screened 165 people.

Within the Tunaydbah refugee camp, International Medical Corps is providing support, beginning with acute malnutrition screening, followed by delivering 100,000 medical masks to community health facilities and raising awareness in the camp about COVID-19. In the last two weeks, International Medical Corps visited the Tunaydbah refugee camp to assess current needs. In the near future, we are planning to complement services provided by other humanitarian actors in the camp by setting up a Nutrition Stabilization Center.



*Supported by International Medical Corps, Ministry of Health staff members conduct training for community health volunteers on COVID-19 infection prevention and control*