

# Crossfire and Covid-19:

Double crisis for displaced civilians



Photo: EPA/Yahya Ahab

**NRC**

NORWEGIAN  
REFUGEE COUNCIL

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## Double crisis for displaced civilians

At a time when governments around the world are asking people to stay at home and limit their travel to contain the spread of Covid-19, armed conflict and violence are forcing hundreds of thousands to flee. Between 23 March and 15 May 2020, armed conflict in 19 countries has displaced at least 661,000 people.

Conflict-affected countries are likely to be among the worst affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Violence in these countries has displaced millions of people, many of whom live in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions, which are fertile environments for viruses to spread. Years of conflict have compromised or destroyed health services and decimated economies. With no social safety nets, displaced people are particularly vulnerable to the socio-economic impact of government measures to contain the pandemic.

On 23 March 2020, United Nations (UN) Secretary-General António Guterres called for a global ceasefire so that the world could focus on a concerted attempt to combat the rapidly spreading pandemic.<sup>1</sup> While a few warring parties have expressed support for the call, most have not, and conflict and violence have continued unabated in many places.

Musa Khan, 70, and his grandchildren unpacking the hygiene kit provided by NRC in Barikab, Kabul.  
Photo: Enayatullah Azad / NRC



The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) has seen by far the largest increase in displacement. Clashes between armed groups and the country's military have forced more than 480,000 people to flee their homes. As a result, DR Congo accounts for nearly 75 per cent of new displacements in the two months since the UN Secretary-General called for a cessation in hostilities. The Lake Chad region of west-central Africa has also experienced a surge in the number of people forced to flee with Chad and Niger being particularly badly affected. The latter experienced more than half the number of displacements reported for the whole of 2019 within just seven weeks. Afghanistan, the Central African Republic, Syria (despite a ceasefire in the north west), Somalia and Myanmar each saw more than 10,000 people displaced in the same period.

Even in countries where warring parties have expressed support for the UN Secretary-General's call for a ceasefire, the fighting has not stopped. In Yemen, the Saudi-led coalition announced on 9 April 2020 that they would implement a unilateral ceasefire. However, the coalition has not suspended its airstrikes and other parties to the conflict have continued armed operations, forcing 24,000 people to flee.

While the UN Secretary-General has been clear that continued hostilities pose a direct threat to the fight against Covid-19, the UN Security Council, the body with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, had yet to adopt a resolution on the pandemic as of the time of publication.

## Recommendations:

### To UN Security Council members:

- Unite to push parties to armed conflicts to halt the conduct of hostilities
- Demand in all resolutions that parties respect applicable international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, including in any efforts to combat designated terrorist organisations
- Promote compliance by ensuring adequate monitoring and reporting to the UN Security Council

### To parties to conflicts:

- Halt the conduct of hostilities
- Give humanitarian organisations safe and unimpeded access to assist people affected by Covid-19 and maintain essential humanitarian services
- Take advantage of pauses in fighting to renew efforts to find political solutions to protracted conflicts
- Enable displaced people to return to their homes in safety and dignity or find another durable solution to their displacement.

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## Methodology

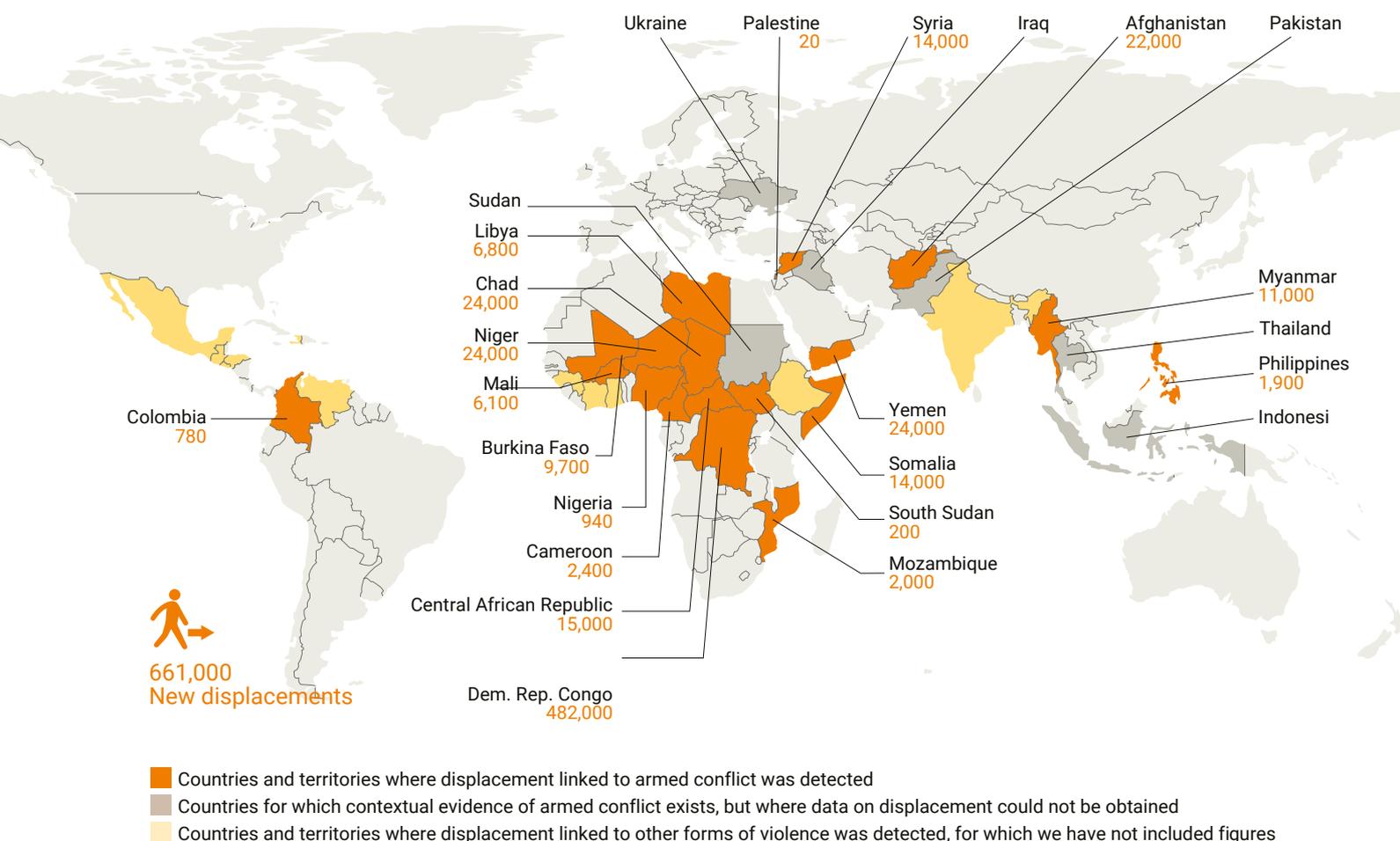
The figures of conflict-related displacement were compiled by NRC's Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre and cover internally displaced people between 23 March and 15 May.<sup>2</sup> The figures focus primarily on displacement caused by armed conflict. However, in a few cases, the data does not allow us to disaggregate it entirely, meaning some figures might include movements caused by other forms of violence.

The Covid-19 crisis has reduced access to affected areas, hindering data collection, validation and sharing efforts. Given the limitations on data collection due to conflict-related access restrictions as well as new restrictions on humanitarian operations as a result of measures to contain Covid-19, the overall figure is likely to be an underestimate.

The seven case studies in this report, covering DR Congo, Yemen, Afghanistan, Syria, Libya, Cameroon and Colombia, draw on information and analysis from the Norwegian Refugee Council's (NRC) humanitarian programmes in those countries, including testimony of newly displaced people.

## New displacements by conflict

March 23rd to May 15th 2020



Country focus:

# Democratic Republic of the Congo



Number of people displaced since 23 March 2020: **482,000**

Number of confirmed cases of Covid-19: **1,242<sup>3</sup>**

## Background

DR Congo has been scarred by multiple, overlapping conflicts since 1994. In 2019, close to 1.7 million people fled violence within the country, placing it second only to Syria on the list of countries with the most newly internally displaced people worldwide.<sup>4</sup> On top of the ongoing conflict and the new threat posed by Covid-19, the country is grappling with multiple public health crises including malaria, cholera and the world's worst measles epidemic, particularly in the eastern part of the country.

## Recent conflict dynamics

Conflict in eastern DR Congo has continued unabated since the Secretary-General's call for a global ceasefire. In April, about 263,000 people fled incursions, attacks by armed groups and military operations in the province of Ituri. About 300 people, including several children, were killed between March and the end of April. In addition, about 147,000 new displacements were recorded in North Kivu, 24,000 in South Kivu, 47,000 in Tanganyika and 400 in Maniema.

Since the beginning of the year, 40 health facilities have been destroyed or looted, and 80,000 children are currently out of school due to displacement or attacks affecting schools.

On 5 May 2020, civil society organisations in DR Congo called for a ceasefire in the country, following the UN Secretary-General's call. However, neither the non-state armed groups nor the government have expressed support for the call.

In total, since 23 March, a staggering 482,000 people have been displaced by conflict in DR Congo.

## Conditions in displacement

The combination of mass displacement and damage to public health infrastructure is leading to increased trauma and poverty, with displaced people forced to live in undignified and unhygienic conditions. This makes the recommended treatments, tracing and awareness-raising necessary to contain Covid-19 next to impossible in the country. Displaced people told NRC that they recently learned that their houses had been burned and their cows stolen – leaving them with no livelihood to return to in the foreseeable future.

**Joseph**, a 33-year-old man displaced from Rho village in the territory of Djugu, told NRC that an attack on his village on 11 May killed his wife, forcing him to flee with their four children.

*"We fled with nothing. I had 20,000 Congolese Francs [11 US dollars] in my pocket... We left everything in the house."<sup>5</sup>*

## Chantal from DR Congo, forced to flee on 3 May



Around 3 am on 12 May, armed men attacked 25-year-old Chantal's village in Ituri province, eastern DR Congo. Chantal told NRC she left their house with her husband and six children when they heard their neighbours shouting.

"The attack started in the neighbouring village. We heard people screaming and we fled. I don't know how many people died there.

I was with my husband. I thought he was still behind me but he and my two sons disappeared. I don't know if they're still alive," Chantal told NRC.

For the moment, she depends on her older sister, Arielle, to support her because she does not yet have the means to take care of herself. She would like peace to return so that she can return to her village.

"My sister gives me food. But here there is suffering. The children haven't eaten anything this morning," Chantal said.

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## Ali, from Hajjah in Yemen, forced to flee on 6 May



In the evening on May 6, Ali, a farmer in the Hajjah governorate in Yemen, heard warplanes flying over his village. In the morning, Ali witnessed as an airstrike hit his cousin's hut. He told NRC:

"My cousin tried to flee the farm with his family, but an airstrike hit them... Three were killed, including a few-months-old child. And four others were badly injured."

Other strikes followed. "Eight airstrikes hit the village and the farm in few hours, and almost all residents of the village fled their houses," he said

Ali fled with his family to nearby Al-Shaqaf, with only the clothes they were wearing. Ali's family now lives inside the tent of another family, who fled their house last year. Despite being in dire circumstances themselves, this family shares food, water and everything they have with Ali, who has no money to even buy a plastic sheet to set up a new tent.

Ali told NRC that he doesn't know anything about the unilateral ceasefire, nor about Covid-19 and what kind of danger it represents for displaced people.

"I'm illiterate and all I know is that warplanes targeted us and forced us to leave our houses," he said. "The best thing was when we would wake up early in the morning and water the vegetables. And after an hour all the farmers would sit together to have their group breakfast in the farm. Those days won't come again. There is nothing worse than seeing relatives become burnt bodies and hearing the screaming of children."

Country focus:

# Yemen

Number of people displaced since 23 March 2020: **24,000**

Number of confirmed cases of Covid-19: **128**



## Background

Yemen's brutal war has forced 3.6 million people to flee their homes. In late 2019 localised ceasefires and a military de-escalation offered a glimmer of hope, but the fighting started to escalate again at the start of 2020. On 10 April, Yemen confirmed its first case of Covid-19. Yemen's health system has been decimated by the conflict. Water and sanitation systems are extensively damaged and hundreds of thousands of health workers, teachers and public servants have not been paid salaries for years. With new cases spreading rapidly, Yemen is heading for a catastrophe on top of a catastrophe.

## Recent conflict dynamics

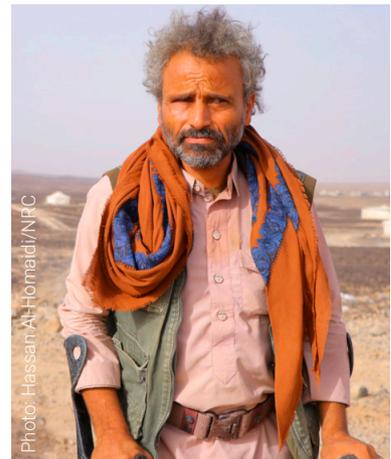
Hostilities in Yemen continued after the declaration of a global pandemic and various ceasefire announcements. On 9 April 2020, the Saudi-led coalition announced a two-week-long unilateral ceasefire in response to the Secretary-General's call. The UN Security Council issued a press statement on 10 April, welcoming the announcement.<sup>6</sup> The coalition later extended the unilateral ceasefire for another month until the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.<sup>7</sup>

In the 80 days following 23 February, one month before the Secretary-General's call, the number of coalition airstrikes increased from 19 to 55, compared to the previous 80 days. While the number of estimated civilian casualties decreased in comparison to previous months, it remained high at 392 compared to 451. Attacks impacted 216 houses and there have been twice as many reported attacks affecting educational infrastructure and health facilities since 23 February compared to the preceding period, including two reports of airstrikes hitting Covid-19 quarantine facilities.<sup>8</sup>

In total, 24,000 people have fled since 23 March 2020<sup>9</sup>.

## Conditions in displacement

New displacements are creating more humanitarian needs and pushing people into conditions where they are at risk of contracting Covid-19. Eighty per cent of the entire population, 24 million people, rely on aid as their main lifeline, and 10 million Yemenis remain one step away from famine.



**Muhsen Ahmed Mahyoub** from Hareeb fled his home on 10 April, the day after the unilateral Covid-19 ceasefire was announced, when the fighting came closer to his house. He fled to a displacement camp near Marib that lacks running water, toilets and electricity. *"We are thinking all the time how to get food, how to get water and how long we can stay here"* he told NRC.

Country focus:

# Afghanistan

Number of people displaced since 23 March 2020: **22,000**

Number of confirmed cases of Covid-19: **6,664**



## Background

The conflict in Afghanistan remains one of the longest-running and deadliest on earth. In February 2020, the US and Taliban signed a landmark peace deal. Optimism quickly evaporated however, and by April conflict activity was on the rise again and has continued to escalate since.

## Recent conflict dynamics

While there has not been any official response from either side to the Secretary-General's ceasefire call, the Afghan government attempted to reach out to the Taliban with a proposal for a Ramadan ceasefire. The Taliban publicly rejected the proposal on 24 April 2020, with their spokesperson stating that a ceasefire was currently not "rational" or "convincing", and that the Afghan government had delayed prisoner exchanges agreed to in the February peace deal.<sup>10</sup> On 1 April, the Taliban announced that it was preparing to stop fighting in areas under its control that are impacted by Covid-19, but stopped short of agreeing to a full ceasefire with the Afghan government.

Attacks on civilians have continued, however, such as the attack on Dasht-e-Barchi hospital in Kabul on 12 May which killed 24 men, women, children and babies.<sup>11</sup> This followed equally high-profile attacks in March targeting civilians in Kabul and Khost.<sup>12</sup> President Ghani announced that the government would restart offensive operations on 12 May, following the attack.<sup>13</sup> The Taliban have said that they were not responsible for the attacks and responded in a statement that any new escalation of violence would be the responsibility of the government.<sup>14</sup>

In total, 22,000 people have been displaced by conflict in Afghanistan since 23 March.

## Conditions in displacement

With a fragile peace process and an escalating conflict, the emergence of the Covid-19 virus threatens to push Afghanistan over the brink. An additional challenge for Afghanistan is the significant increase in the number of refugees returning from Iran since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. Over 115,000 Afghans crossed the Iran-Afghanistan border during March 2020 alone, adding to returnees from Pakistan. Those who return to the country are often secondarily displaced, unable to travel to or stay in their area of origin.



**Mohammad Alam** (53) returned to Afghanistan a few years ago after having spent 40 years in Pakistan. He told NRC he *"could not return to my hometown in Azra District in Logar as it was not safe"*, and he now lives in Barakib camp outside Kabul, *"I have eleven family members and now there is no food at home."*

Country focus:

# Syria

Number of people displaced since 23 March 2020: **14,000**

Number of confirmed cases of Covid-19: **58**



## Background

Syria remains a country at war. Nine years of conflict have led to the displacement of over half the population, economic decline and massive destruction of civilian infrastructure. Across the country, many people continue to struggle to access adequate services and face daily threats to their safety.<sup>15</sup> Ongoing hostilities in the north of the country – involving a range of non-state armed groups and several states – continue to displace people. Millions languish in overcrowded and ill-equipped displacement camps.

## Recent conflict dynamics

Turkey and Russia brokered a ceasefire agreement in north-west Syria on 5 March 2020 prior to the UN Secretary-General's call for a global ceasefire. Some non-state armed groups have condemned the ceasefire agreement, expressing their intention to continue military operations against government forces.<sup>16</sup> The recent ceasefire significantly reduced hostilities in the region, resulting in a pause in aerial bombardment and a reduction in clashes, prior to which over 900,000 people had been displaced since 1 December 2019.<sup>17</sup> However, there have been sporadic violations, including intermittent ground fighting and repeated artillery shelling including in Kafr Nobol sub-district in southern Idlib and Atareb sub-district in western Aleppo, both in north-west Syria.<sup>18</sup>

Since 23 March more than 14,000 people have been displaced due to the deteriorating security situation in Syria.<sup>19</sup>

## Conditions in displacement

The reduction in violence has brought some relief to communities on both sides of the conflict line, but conditions remain dire for displaced people. In north-west Syria alone, three million Syrians live in displacement, many of whom have been forced to flee multiple times. They face closed borders with Turkey on one side, and dangerous frontlines on the other. They feel tremendous uncertainty about the prospects of further violence, fearing that the ceasefire will fail, like many before. Around 157,000 people in north-west Syria who need a roof over their heads have yet to receive shelter assistance since their recent displacement.

A total of 114,000 Syrians have returned to their homes since the agreement, despite instability and a lack of humanitarian services in the area, citing dwindling resources and a high cost of living in their place of displacement.<sup>20</sup>

*"I live together with four other families in a makeshift residence. A few blocks of concrete covered with a plastic sheet that we put together for lack of a better option. Each family occupies a single room, and the walls between us are so thin, your neighbours can hear every single word you say,"* said **Abu Yousif**, a father of four and resident of a camp for internally displaced people in Idlib province.

Country focus:

# Libya

Number of people displaced since 23 March 2020: **6,800**

Number of confirmed cases of Covid-19: **64**



## Background

Libya is now in its ninth year of instability and conflict following the fall of Muammar al-Gaddafi's government in 2011. There are currently 373,709 internally displaced people in the country and more than 890,000 people in need of some form of humanitarian assistance.<sup>21</sup> In addition to displaced Libyans, there are 653,800 migrants in Libya,<sup>22</sup> including an estimated 3,200 refugees and migrants in detention centres. A January 2020 commitment to de-escalation by the warring parties was short-lived.<sup>23</sup>

## Recent conflict dynamics

On 25 March 2020, shortly after the Secretary-General's call, the GNA launched a military operation in the country's capital, Tripoli.<sup>24</sup> Fighting remains intense across Tripoli and the Abu Grein frontlines, which is 140 kilometers south-east of Misrata, Libya's third largest city, in the north-west of the country. Heavy artillery fire, airstrikes and rocket attacks continue from both sides, including attacks on airports, water and electric power supply stations. Fifteen health facilities have been damaged or destroyed and casualties have been reported among health workers<sup>25</sup>. Indiscriminate attacks on densely populated neighborhoods in Tripoli as well as attacks on shelters for internally displaced people have been carried out. On 16 May, seven deaths and dozens of injuries were reported following an attack on a student housing complex in southern Tripoli where displaced people were seeking safety. Following the strike, many families were left without shelter, as no other options were immediately available for them.

## Conditions in displacement

Conflict has impeded humanitarian-led efforts to prevent the spread of the virus to vulnerable communities with limited access to healthcare. Thousands of displaced Libyan families living in informal settlements and the estimated 3,200 refugees and migrants held in detention centres across the country are particularly vulnerable. Furthermore, heavy fighting around the main port in Tripoli has led to dangerous disembarkation conditions in Tripoli for migrants intercepted at sea and returned to Libya. In April alone, 395 migrants have been returned to Libya.<sup>26</sup> In addition, the government's Covid-19 measures, including curfews, restrictions on movements, closure of markets and the suspension of large gatherings including schools, are having profound socio-economic impacts on vulnerable communities across the country.

Country focus:

# Cameroon

Number of people displaced since 23 March 2020: **2,400**

Number of confirmed cases of Covid-19: **2,954**



## Background

Eight of the 10 regions of Cameroon are facing conflict and witnessing growing humanitarian needs, with the Far-North region of the country particularly affected. Since 2017, a surge in violence by non-state armed groups, as well as military operations in the English-speaking North-West and South-West regions, have forced an unprecedented number of people to flee their homes.

## Recent conflict dynamics

In the Far-North region, none of the conflict parties responded to the UN Secretary-General's call and fighting has continued unabated. Between 25 April and 7 May 2020, a number of attacks by non-state armed groups in Logone-et-Chari, located close to the borders with Nigeria, Chad and Niger, forced 978 people to flee their homes. Only one of the many armed groups operating in the North-West and South-West regions of Cameroon responded to the UN Secretary-General's call for ceasefire. The populations have witnessed ongoing violence throughout the last couple of months and humanitarian organisations report several incidents of violence against humanitarian workers.

In total since 23 March at least 2,400 people have been displaced in Cameroon.

## Conditions in displacement

Many of those who recently fled did so on foot and are now living out in the open due to the lack of assistance and shelter.<sup>27</sup> Solomon, 43, told NRC that he fled from his home to another village on 5 April after being threatened by a non-state armed group. "We have had to abandon our farms and property back home, and my kids are so scared that they run away anytime somebody knocks at the door. I really wish that there was a genuine ceasefire," he told NRC.

*"I really did not feel safe in Ndop because the gun battle took place in my community. I took my two kids and came to Bamenda [regional capital] for safety".*

**Henry**, (28) a farmer in the North West region



File photo of houses destroyed in Mankon village in 2019. This year more people are still being displaced. Photo: Ingebjörg Kårstad/NRC

Country focus:

# Colombia

Number of people displaced since 23 March 2020: **780**

Number of confirmed cases of Covid-19: **15,574**



## Background

With 5.5 million internally displaced people, Colombia has the second largest internally displaced population in the world behind Syria, and more than five million people are in need of humanitarian assistance.<sup>28</sup> The country's six-decade-long conflict involved government security forces, guerrillas, paramilitary groups and criminal groups. Discontent in rural areas arising from economic inequality, political exclusion, corruption, poor governance and the uneven distribution of land led to the outbreak of armed conflict in the mid-1960s. Although the country reached a milestone with the 2016 peace agreement, the conflict restarted in areas formerly controlled by the guerrilla movement Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia—Ejército del Pueblo (FARC-EP).

## Recent conflict dynamics

The National Liberation Army (ELN), a non-state armed group, announced a one-month unilateral ceasefire starting on 1 April 2020 in response to the UN Secretary-General's ceasefire call.<sup>29</sup> However, and despite calls for an extension, Colombia's ELN armed group ended its unilateral ceasefire on 1 May.<sup>30</sup> At least one attack on a medical mission has been recorded since the beginning of the pandemic.<sup>31</sup>

In total, according to media reports and UN monitoring, at least 780 people have been displaced in Colombia since 23 March.<sup>32</sup>

## Conditions in displacement

Chocó and Nariño, both located in the west of Colombia, have been the regions of the country most affected by displacement. They are also the regions with the highest proportion of people in need of humanitarian assistance and living below the poverty line (61 per cent and 41 per cent of people, respectively)<sup>33</sup>. There are 171,000 children at risk of forced recruitment and 358,000 people affected by the presence of explosive ordnance.



Delivery of education kits to displaced children in Juradó. Armed groups displaced indigenous people from the area last April, with hundreds of children missing school. Photo: NRC

## Country breakdown

<b>Country</b>	<b>Number of people displaced between 23 March and 15 May</b>
Democratic Republic of the Congo	482,000
Yemen	24,000
Chad	24,000
Niger	24,000
Afghanistan	22,000
Central African Republic	15,000
Syria	14,000
Somalia	14,000
Myanmar	11,000
Burkina Faso	9,700
Libya	6,800
Mali	6,100
Cameroon	2,400
Mozambique	2,000
Philippines	1,900
Nigeria	940
Colombia	780
South Sudan	200
Palestine	20

## Endnotes

- 1 UN chief calls for global ceasefire to focus on ‘the true fight of our lives’, UN News, 23 March 2020 <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1059972>
- 2 Sources include: the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) the International Organisation on Migration’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (IOM DTM), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Protection Cluster, Protection and Return Monitoring Network (Somalia), Humanitarian Needs Analysis Project (HNAP), CONASUR, ACLED, the Philippine government’s Disaster Response Operations Monitoring and Information Center (DROMIC) and local media.
- 3 Data on confirmed Covid-19 cases are from Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Centre, as of 18 May 2020.
- 4 Global Report on Internal Displacement 2020, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre/Norwegian Refugee Council, April 2020 <https://www.internal-displacement.org/global-report/grid2020/>
- 5 Names of some of the displaced people quoted in this report have been changed at their request.
- 6 Security Council Press Statement on Yemen, 10 April 2020 <https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sc14159.doc.htm>
- 7 Saudi-led coalition announces one-month extension of Yemen ceasefire, Reuters, 24 April 2020 <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-yemen-security-saudi-idUSKCN2261GS>
- 8 Data provided by the Civilian Impact Monitoring Project.
- 9 This figure is likely to be an underestimate. It covers only 10 of the 22 governorates in Yemen (not including Sana’a governorate and city) and only displacements that have been verified and for which the reason of displacement was indicated as “conflict” have been taken into account. (Source: IOM DTM)
- 10 Taliban Rejects Afghan Cease-Fire Offer During Ramadan, RFE/RL, 24 April 2020 <https://www.rferl.org/a/taliban-rejects-afghan-cess-fire-offer-during-ramadan/30574376.html>
- 11 Death toll from attack on Kabul maternity clinic rises to 24, ABC News, 13 May 2020, <https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/death-toll-attack-kabul-maternity-clinic-rises-24-70653774>
- 12 Afghanistan: dozens killed in attack on Kabul Sikh temple, The Guardian, 25 March 2020 <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/25/afghanistan-dozens-killed-in-attack-on-kabul-sikh-temple>
- 13 Afghan forces to resume offensive operations: President Ghani, Agence France-Presse, 12 May 2020 <https://news.yahoo.com/afghan-forces-resume-offensive-operations-president-ghani-160222966.html>
- 14 As Ghani orders offensive, Taliban vow to fight back, Daily Times, 14 May 2020 <https://dailytimes.com.pk/612100/as-ghani-orders-offensive-taliban-vow-to-fight-back/>
- 15 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), March 2019. [https://hno-syria.org/data/downloads/en/full\\_hno\\_2019.pdf](https://hno-syria.org/data/downloads/en/full_hno_2019.pdf).
- 16 Humanitarian Access Team Weekly Report, 11-17 March 2020.
- 17 More than 900,000 people displaced, Norwegian Refugee Council, 25 February 2020 <https://www.nrc.no/news/2020/february/more-than-900000-people-displaced/>
- 18 Humanitarian Access Team Weekly Report, 18-24 March 2020.
- 19 This figure covers the period from 1 April to 30 April as IDMC use monthly datasets for Syria. Another 27,441 new displacements have been reported due to factors such as deterioration of the economic situation and increased lack of access to basic services, following huge waves of displacement to those areas since December 2019.
- 20 UN OCHA, Recent Developments in Northwest Syria: Flash Update, 24 April 2020.
- 21 Libya Humanitarian Needs Overview 2020
- 22 IOM Libya Monthly Update, April 2020 [https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/situation\\_reports/file/april\\_2020\\_iom\\_libya\\_monthly\\_update.pdf](https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/situation_reports/file/april_2020_iom_libya_monthly_update.pdf)
- 23 After the LNA launched its offensive on Tripoli in April 2019, there have been multiple attempts to negotiate a long-lasting ceasefire and achieve a durable political outcome. UN-led peace talks have focused on a three-track negotiation plan – political, economic and military – which has stalled. The Berlin Libya Conference in January 2020 attempted to breathe new life into these efforts and resulted in a fragile temporary truce between the GNA and LNA. However, by March, the GNA and LNA had ceased their participation in the Berlin process.

- 24 Libya's UN-recognised gov't on the offensive, Al Jazeera, 20 April 2020 <https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/inpictures/pictures-libya-backed-gov-offensive-200420090336565.html>
- 25 Joint statement on Libya by OCHA, UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR, WFP, WHO, UNFPA, 13 May 2020 <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/13-05-2020-joint-statement-on-libya>
- 26 IOM Libya Monthly Update- April 2020
- 27 DTM, IOM (May 2020)
- 28 For official government statistics, see this link <https://www.unidadvictimas.gov.co/es/ruv/37385>
- 29 Colombian rebel group calls temporary ceasefire over pandemic, Agence France-Presse, 30 March 2020 <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/colombian-rebel-group-calls-temporary-ceasefire-over-pandemic-153727134.html>
- 30 Colombia's ELN rebels scrap ceasefire, France 24, 27 April 2020 <https://www.france24.com/en/20200427-colombia-s-eln-rebels-scrap-ceasefire>
- 31 Misión médica fue baleada e incinerada en Tumaco: murieron la paciente y el conductor, Noticias Caracol, 4 April 2020 <https://noticias.caracol.com/colombia/mision-medica-fue-baleada-e-incinerada-en-tumaco-murieron-la-paciente-y-el-conductor-nid225679>
- 32 This number is likely an underestimate. Colombia's Victims Registry (RUV) has stated that only a partial share of displacement events is reported on by the media. OCHA only reports on displacements of more than 50 people.
- 33 See Humanitarian Needs Overview, 2020 <https://reliefweb.int/report/colombia/resultados-hno-2020> and Pobreza monetaria por departamentos en Colombia, 12 July 2019 [https://www.dane.gov.co/files/investigaciones/condiciones\\_vida/pobreza/2018/bt\\_pobreza\\_monetaria\\_18\\_departamentos.pdf](https://www.dane.gov.co/files/investigaciones/condiciones_vida/pobreza/2018/bt_pobreza_monetaria_18_departamentos.pdf)



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