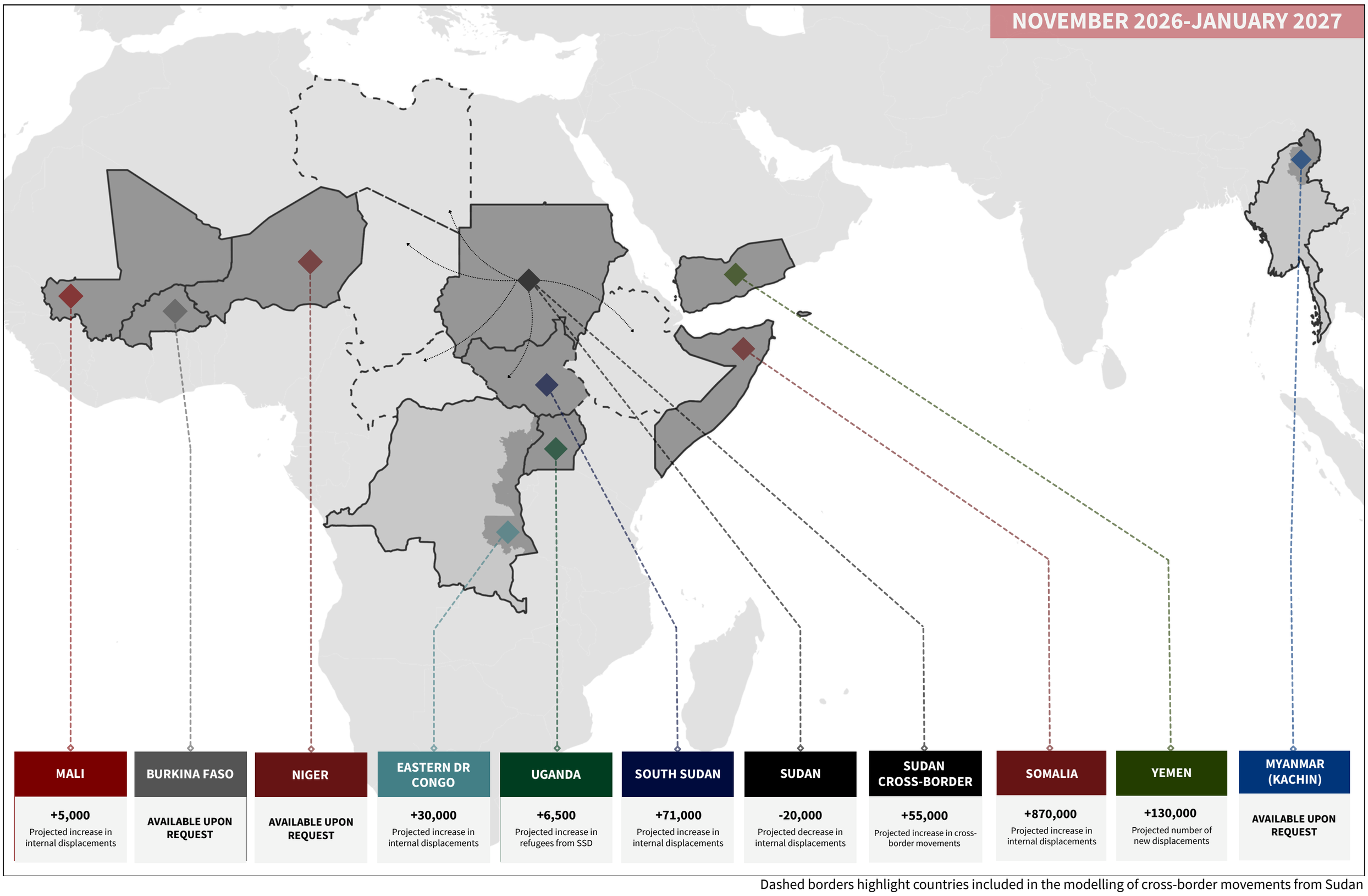
DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

AHEAD

GLOBAL SNAPSHOT #19 - NOVEMBER 2026

OVERVIEW

AHEAD's global snapshot #19 presents displacement forecasts for the period ***November 2026 to January 2027***, providing early warnings on where displacement figures may rise or fall. This edition covers ten countries: **Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Uganda, eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali and Yemen, as well as Myanmar (Kachin state), Niger and Burkina Faso (all three available upon request). In addition, the snapshot includes a dedicated analysis of cross-border displacement movements from Sudan into neighbouring countries.** Forecasts draw on recent displacement trends, conflict dynamics, food insecurity and seasonal factors. As displacement data can be highly uncertain or missing, the AHEAD model attempts to impute missing values and estimate current displacement levels before projecting three months ahead.



Dashed borders highlight countries included in the modelling of cross-border movements from Sudan

GLOBAL OUTLOOK

In Somalia, displacement is anticipated to climb by over 870,000, and particularly large increases are expected in terms of the total number of flood-induced IDPs. However, these projections draw on the seasonal outlook first issued in August and more recent monitoring suggests near-term flood impacts could be lower than anticipated.

In Sudan, the total number of IDPs is expected to decrease by roughly 20,000, but large rises are projected in Khartoum and Blue Nile. **Meanwhile, cross-border flows from Sudan, particularly into the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan and Chad, are projected to rise by over 50,000.**

The number of new displacements is anticipated to be over 70,000 in South Sudan, with a large number of arrivals projected in Gogrial East and Tonj North**. In Uganda, the AHEAD model projects an increase of more than 6,000 refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan across nine settlements.**

Forecasts for eastern DR Congo indicate that the number of IDPs will increase by roughly 30,000 by January 2027. In Mali it is anticipated that the number of IDPs across the country will rise by 5,000 in the next three months.

In Yemen, the number of new displacements in the coming quarter is expected to be over 130,000, as the fighting has intensified across multiple areas.

For more information about AHEAD, please visit: https://drc.ngo/what-we-do/innovation/anticipatory-action/ahead/

Disclaimer: the maps shown here are for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by DRC. The forecasts presented in this snapshot are based on available data from relevant sources at the time of analysis. Work on the forecasting model is ongoing, and updates are made regularly as new information becomes available.

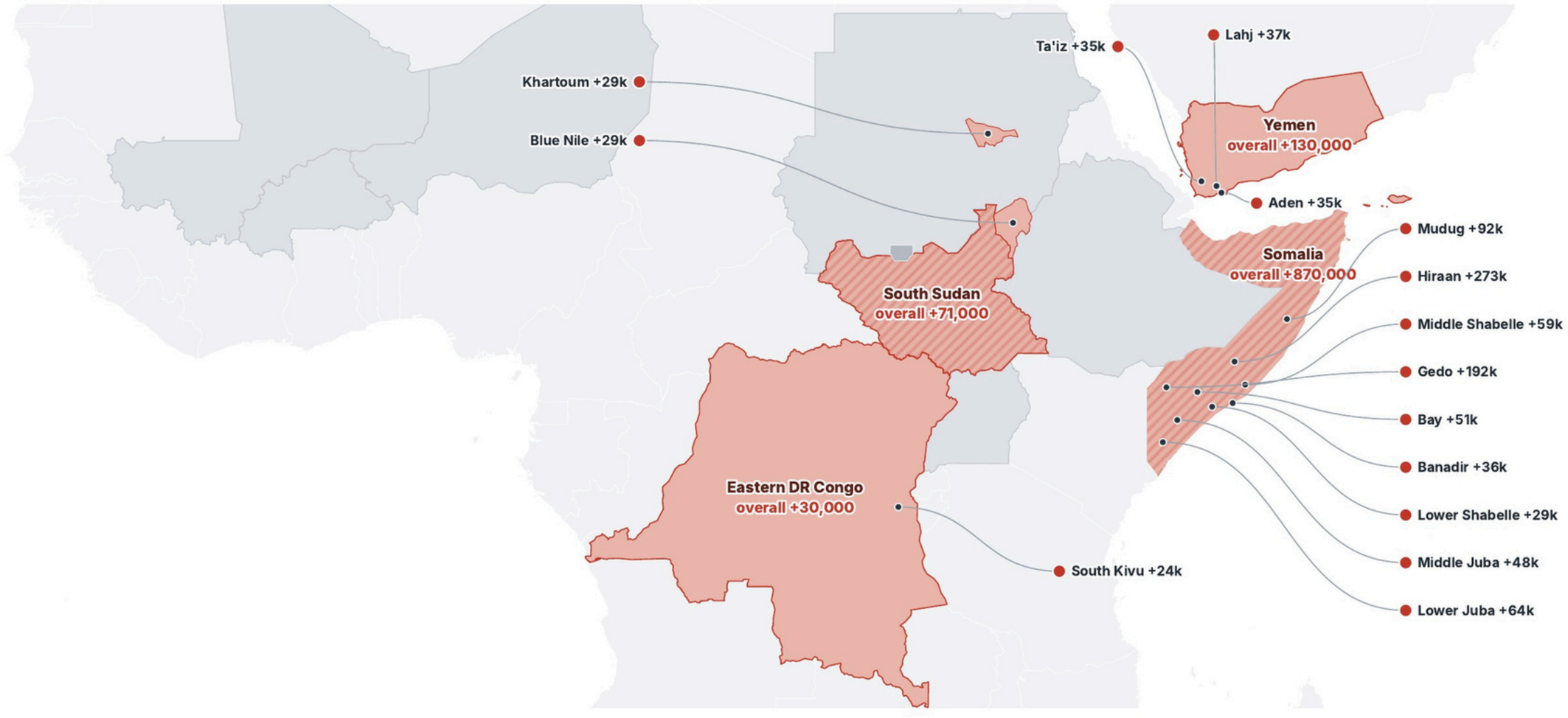
DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

AHEAD Displacement Forecasts — November: Notable Projected Increases

AHEAD's Global Snapshot #19 provides displacement forecasts for November 2026 to January 2027. Here, we highlight areas where the projected three-month figures meet specific thresholds. For DR Congo, Sudan and Somalia these are the projected change in the overall number of displaced people over the period; for Yemen and South Sudan they are the projected total of new displacements over the same period.

We flag administrative level 1 areas where the projected figure is above 15,000 people, and countries where the overall projected figure is above 30,000.

DRIVER conflict multi-hazard



Figures show the forecast total of new displacements over the three-month period for Yemen and South Sudan, and the forecast change in the overall number of displaced people over the same period for DR Congo, Sudan and Somalia. Forecasts cover conflict-related displacement in DR Congo, Sudan and Yemen, and displacement linked to multiple hazards in South Sudan and Somalia. DR Congo's forecast covers Ituri, North Kivu, South Kivu and Tanganyika provinces. Somalia's projections are produced quarterly. The projections shown here were published in August and draw on the seasonal outlook issued that month; more recent monitoring suggests that near-term flood impacts could be lower than anticipated. Boundaries: OCHA / national datasets. The map shown here is for illustration purposes only; names and boundaries do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by DRC.

EASTERN DR CONGO

Since January 2025, renewed M23 offensives in eastern DR Congo have driven new displacements. Between 4th of January and 19th of March 2025, M23 fighters entered into Masisi, Sake, Goma, Bukavu and Walikale. These advances have led to hundreds of thousands of new displacements, while millions have also been forced back toward their places of origin. In eastern DR Congo, AHEAD's displacement forecasts cover 28 territories across North Kivu, South Kivu, Ituri and Tanganyika provinces.

HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

Displacement is expected to rise across several territories in South Kivu province. **Kabare is projected to record the largest increase, with around 12,000 additional IDPs by January 2027**, followed by **Kalehe with around 10,000** and Walungu with around 6,000.

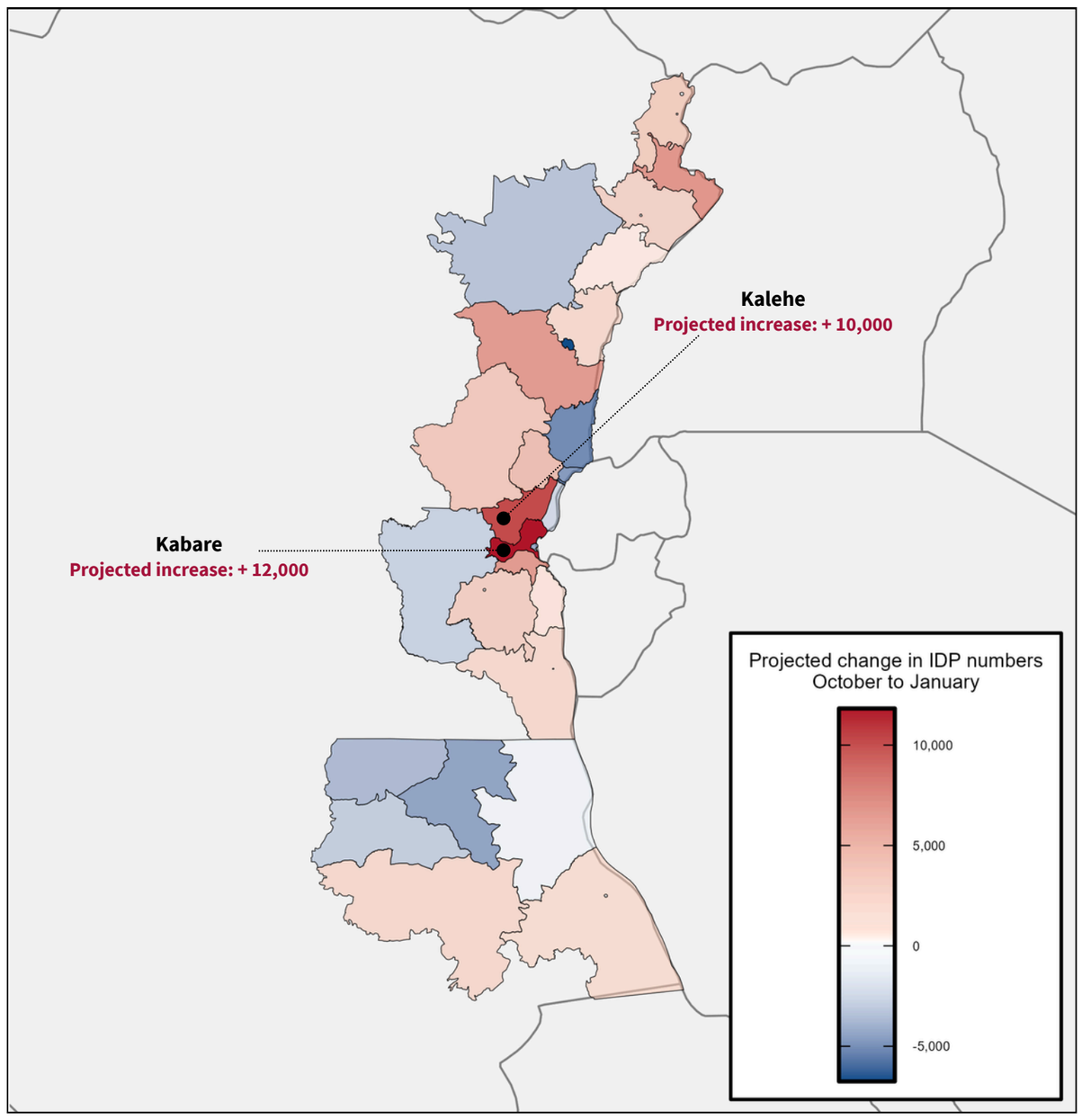
In North Kivu, **Lubero is projected to record the largest increase**, with around 6,000 additional IDPs between end-October and end-January. IDP numbers are also projected to rise in Masisi (+4,000) and Walikale (+3,200).

In Ituri, the number of IDPs in **Mahagi is projected to increase by around 6,500** over the same period. Smaller increases are projected in Aru (+2,800), Djugu (+2,400) and Irumu. DTM recorded substantial increases in the overall number of IDPs in both Djugu and Irumu in recent assessments.

In Tanganyika, IDP numbers are projected to remain broadly stable in Kalemie and rise modestly in Manono and Moba.

3.57 MILLION
Projected total IDP numbers by January 2027

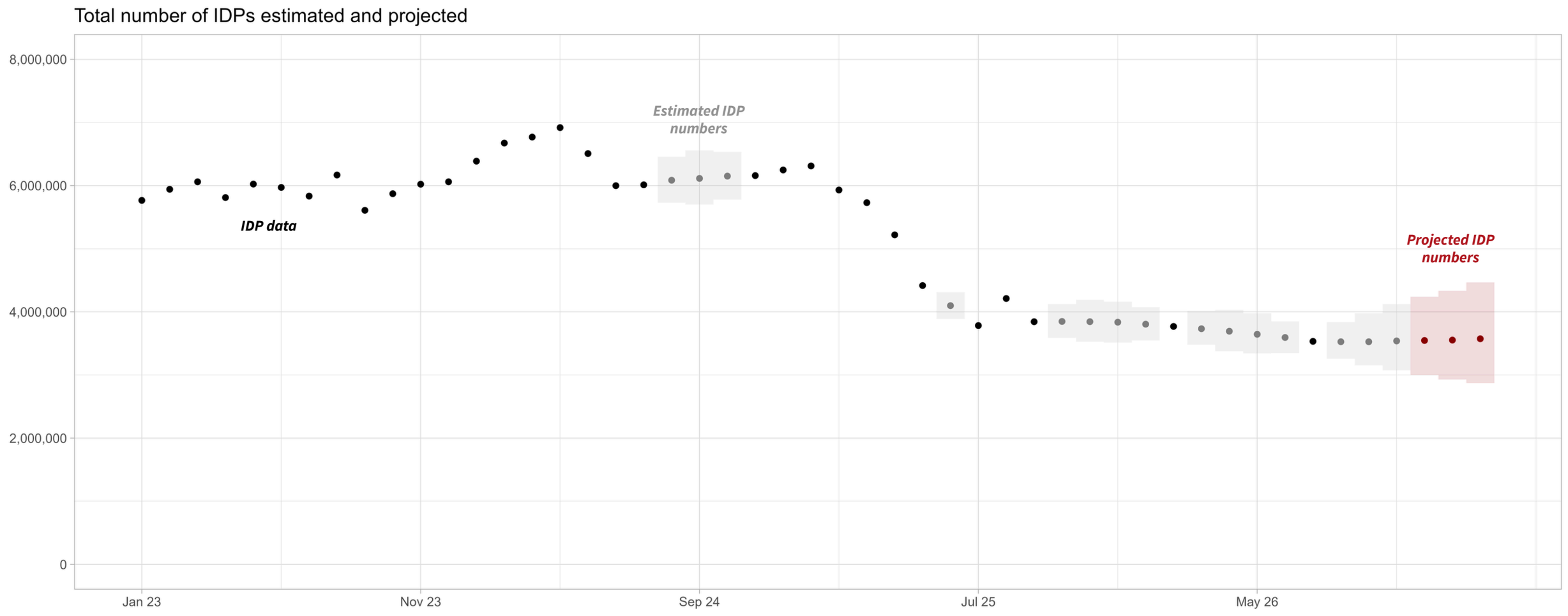
+30,000
Projected IDP increase between October and January



PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

In eastern DR Congo, the number of IDPs is projected to increase by more than 30,000 over the next three months, reaching approximately 3.57 million across the four eastern provinces by January 2027. Recent DTM assessments point to differing trends across provinces. In Ituri, the number of IDPs increased between the two latest data-collection cycles, while South Kivu recorded a relatively large decline in IDP numbers alongside an increase in returnees. In North Kivu, the overall IDP caseload remained broadly stable between the latest rounds. Particularly large increases have been recorded in Djugu, Masisi and Uvira.

The projected increase should be read against continued insecurity and repeated displacement. In South Kivu, it was estimated that more than 323,000 people fled their homes following fighting in Kalehe and Kabare on 6–9 November. Some families reportedly moved more than once, and a preliminary humanitarian alert identified arrivals in Katana health zone in Kabare, mainly from Kalonge and Bunyakiri in Kalehe. In Ituri, a preliminary alert reported that fighting in Djugu from 25 October prompted movements into the Angumu and Nyarambe health zones in Mahagi. On the Ituri–North Kivu border, local reporting described displacement towards Kambau and Njiapanda following attacks in late October. Overall, these dynamics suggest that new and secondary displacement will continue in several areas over the projection period, alongside localized returns and onward movements. Their effects on destination caseloads will depend on where households remain; repeated movement within a territory does not itself increase its total IDP caseload, while returns home and departures to other territories may offset arrivals, producing more moderate net changes than reported displacement movements alone might suggest.



Note: Eastern DR Congo's displacement data are sourced from OCHA.

MALI

Internal displacement in Mali is almost entirely conflict-related. Displacement in Mali is driven by a protracted and complex conflict involving state forces, allied paramilitaries, and a patchwork of non-state armed groups, further exacerbated by intercommunal violence. The displacement is primarily concentrated in the central regions of Bandiagara, Mopti and Ségou, and the northern regions of Gao, Menaka and Tombouctou.

HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

By January 2027, AHEAD projects the largest displaced population in Mali to be in **Bandiagara, Gao, Menaka and Mopti.**

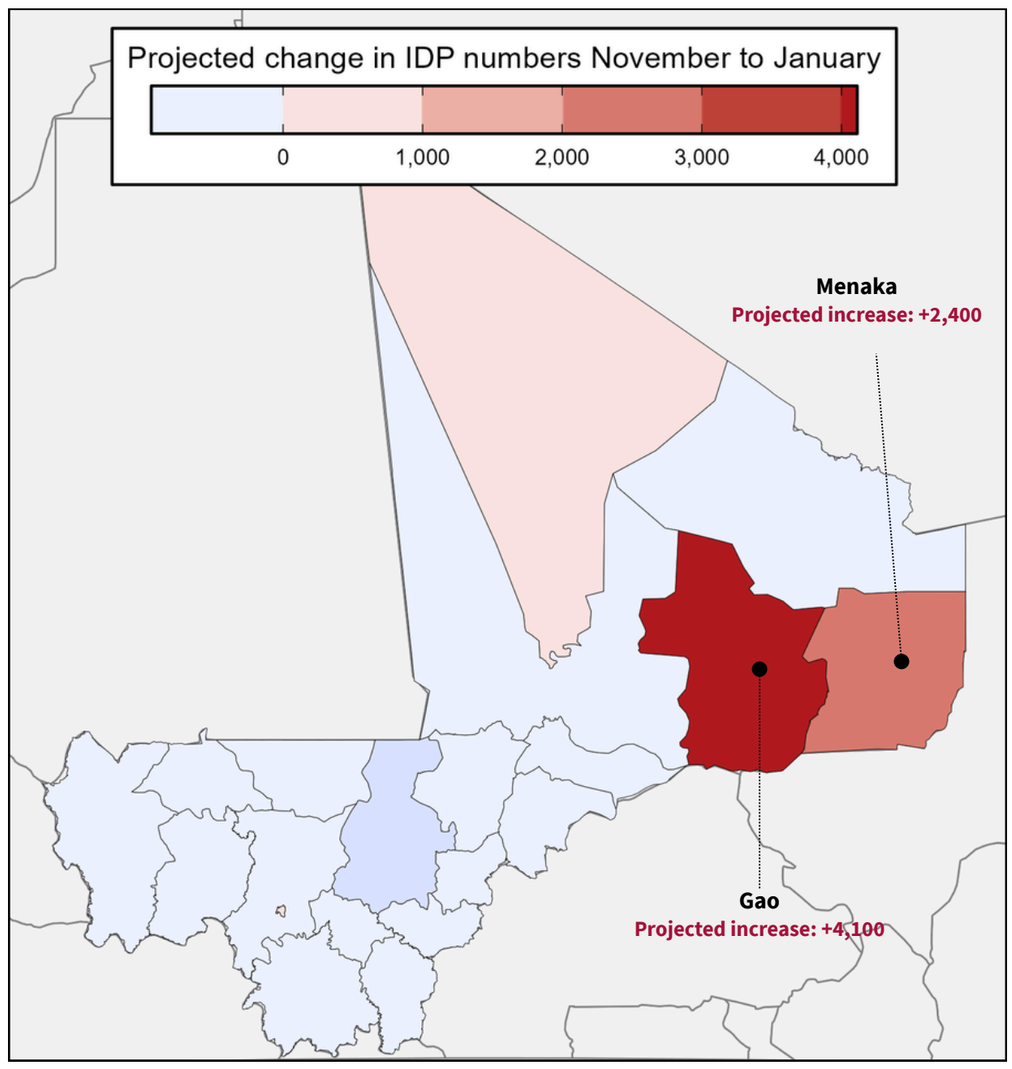
Projections for November, December and January indicate the highest risk of large scale displacement in the eastern part of the country. **In Gao, the number of IDPs is expected to increase by 4,100 by January, compared to estimates from October.**

Increases are also anticipated in Menaka. The number of IDPs there is projected to rise by about 2,400 between end-October 2026 and end-January 2027.

In most other areas, no significant changes are projected.

458,000
Projected total IDP numbers by January 2027

+5,000
Projected change in IDP numbers between October and January

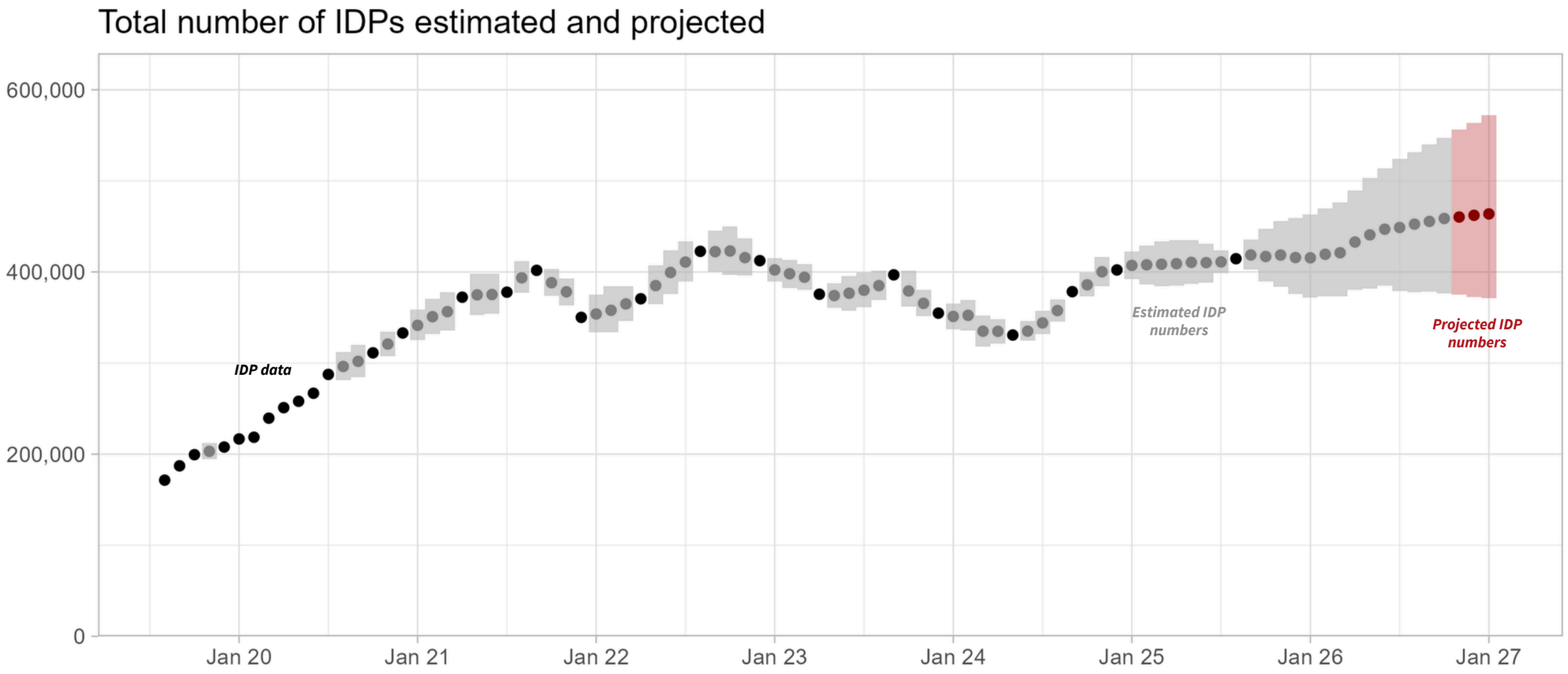


PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

Following a resurgence of violence throughout 2025, Mali entered a critical phase of insecurity in early 2026. The conflict dramatically escalated on April 25–26, 2026, when JNIM and the FLA launched an unprecedented, coordinated offensive targeting strategic urban centers, including Bamako, Kati, Gao, Mopti, and Kidal. Since August, JNIM intensified operations in central Mali, attacking military installations in San (Ségou region) and Dioura (Mopti region), while also expanding its operational footprint along the western border near Kayes, Senegal, and Guinea. Meanwhile, in the north, five months after the FLA seized Kidal during the April offensive, Malian armed forces backed by Russia's Africa Corps retook the city in early October.

In eastern Mali (Gao and Menaka), heightened clashes between JNIM and ISSP alongside retaliatory ISSP attacks against civilians—particularly the Dawsahak community—continue to drive acute displacement risks. Over the next three months, internal displacement is projected to increase further, with the potential for sharper localized spikes.

Mali also faces mounting pressure as a host country. As of September 30, 2026, the number of refugees and asylum seekers in Mali rose to 322,584 (including an increase of more than 5,300 people between August and September alone), primarily fleeing violence in neighboring Burkina Faso and Niger.



Note: Mali's displacement data are sourced from IOM.

SUDAN

Since the conflict between SAF and RSF began, Sudan has seen a sharp rise in displacement, reaching nearly 11.6 million IDPs by January 2025. In recent months, figures have declined, partly due to increasing returns. The AHEAD model covers 18 states and includes cross-border flows into Ethiopia, South Sudan, Chad, the Central African Republic and Libya.

HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

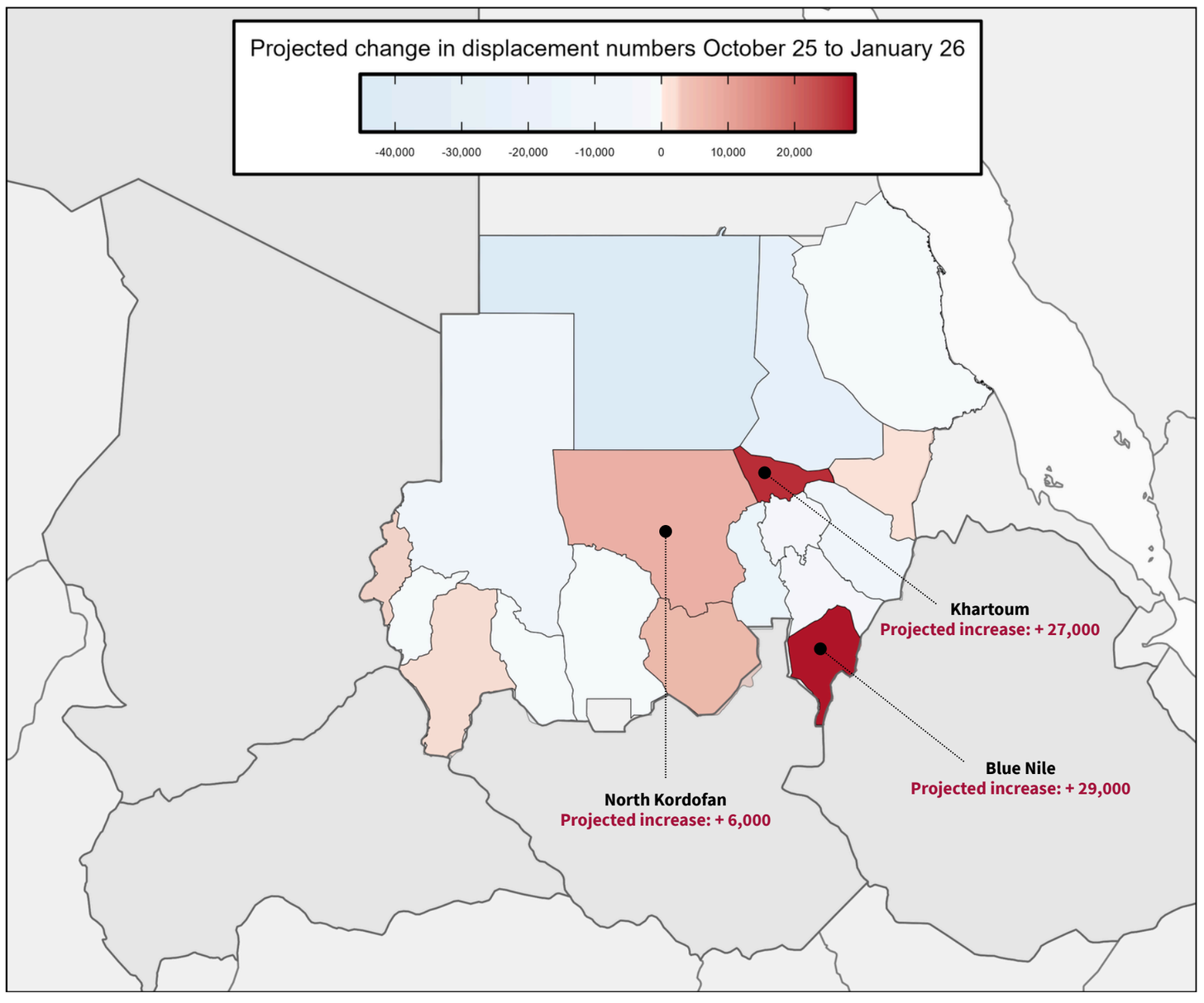
Over the coming three months, displacement in **Khartoum is projected to increase by around 27,000 people**, following large increases in recent months linked to both within-state movements and arrivals from the Kordofan region. **In Blue Nile, the number of IDPs is projected to rise by over 29,000**, following a significant increase of over 30,000 IDPs by end-September compared to end-August.

Numbers in Kordofan region are also projected to rise. The IDP caseload in **North Kordofan is expected to increase by roughly 6,000 individuals** by January. In South Kordofan, the model projects an increase of almost 5,000 IDPs.

By contrast, return movements are expected to remain a key driver of declining IDP numbers in several other states, including in White Nile, Northern and River Nile.

8.55 MILLION
Projected total IDPs numbers by January 2027

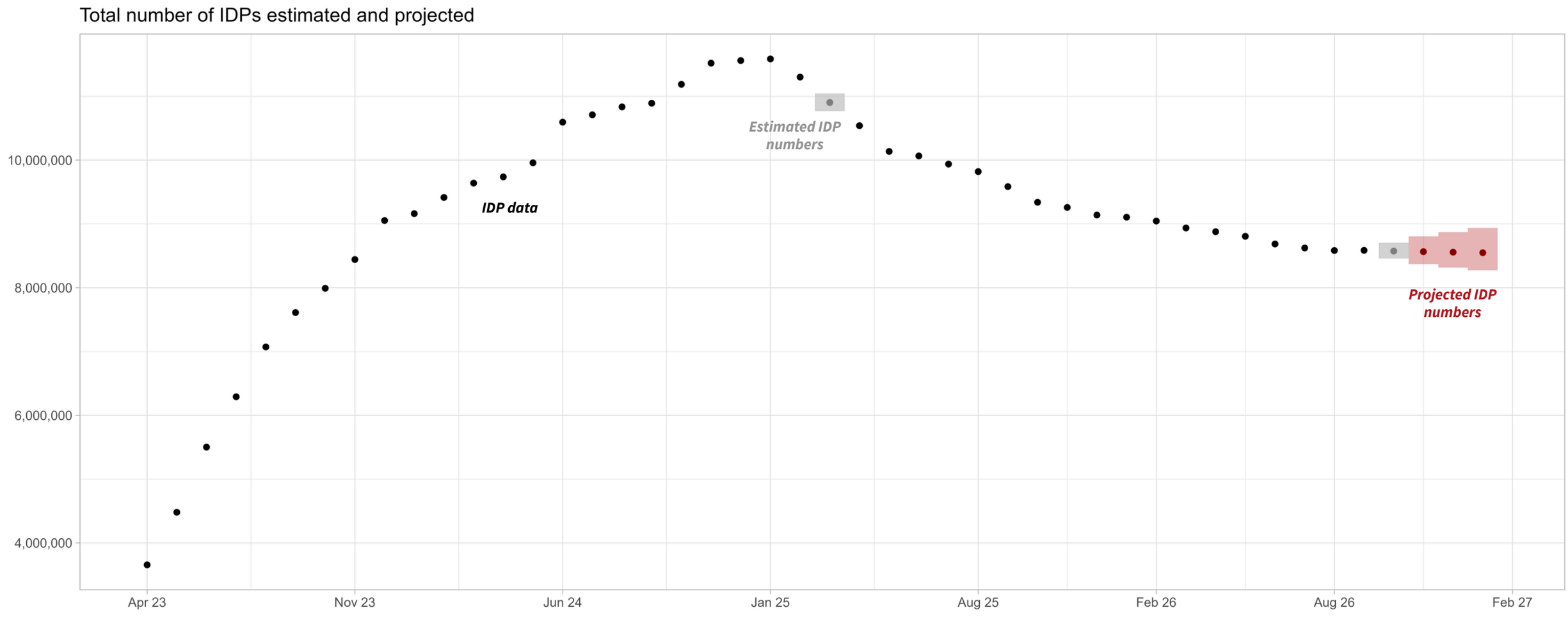
-20,000
Projected IDP decrease between October and January



PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

Over the next three months, the AHEAD model anticipates a decline in the number of IDPs in Sudan. By January 2027, the total is projected at around 8.55 million, about 20,000 fewer than in October. This decline is consistent with recent DTM Sudan reporting. Mobility Update 22 (September 2025) estimated about 9.58 million IDPs nationwide, more than 2.0 million below the peak earlier in the year. Subsequent updates continued this downward trend, with the Displacement and Return Overview showing a continued decline in 2026, from around 9.1 million IDPs in January to 8.59 million in September. September marked a slight rise after several months of decline, with around 2,300 more IDPs nationwide than in August and large increases recorded in Blue Nile and Khartoum. The longer-term reductions have been partly driven by returns, with more than 4.3 million individuals estimated to have returned from internal displacement by September 2026. However, returns do not necessarily indicate reduced needs, as many households are returning to damaged homes and limited basic services.

Despite the projected national decline, new and secondary displacement may continue in areas affected by fighting. In Blue Nile, IOM's latest focused flash alert estimated that nearly 120,000 people had been displaced from locations across the state between 11 January and 15 October. This was 21% higher than in its 23 August update. The largest increase was recorded in Ar Rusayris. In Kordofan, a recent UNFPA report documented continued displacement linked to fighting in all three states during September, including around El Obeid, Bara and Dilling. The IPC alert also warned of a growing risk of famine in parts of Greater Kordofan and Greater Darfur, citing conflict, mass displacement, drought and inadequate humanitarian funding. Over the projection period, returns may continue to reduce national IDP numbers while new displacement partly offsets those reductions. Secondary movements between locations within Sudan may also change local caseloads without increasing the national total.



Note: Sudan's displacement data are sourced from IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix. Cross-border movements data are sourced from IOM and UNHCR Operational Data Portal.

SUDAN CROSS-BORDER

Since the start of the conflict between the SAF and the RSF in April 2023, Sudan has experienced large-scale cross-border displacement. IOM DTM estimates indicate that more than 4.4 million people had crossed borders as of the latest reporting period. Approximately 69% of those displaced were Sudanese nationals, while 31% were non-Sudanese nationals. DTM tracks cumulative cross-border movements from Sudan since 15 April 2023, and the AHEAD model builds on this data to project future movements into Chad, South Sudan, Ethiopia, the Central African Republic and Libya.

HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

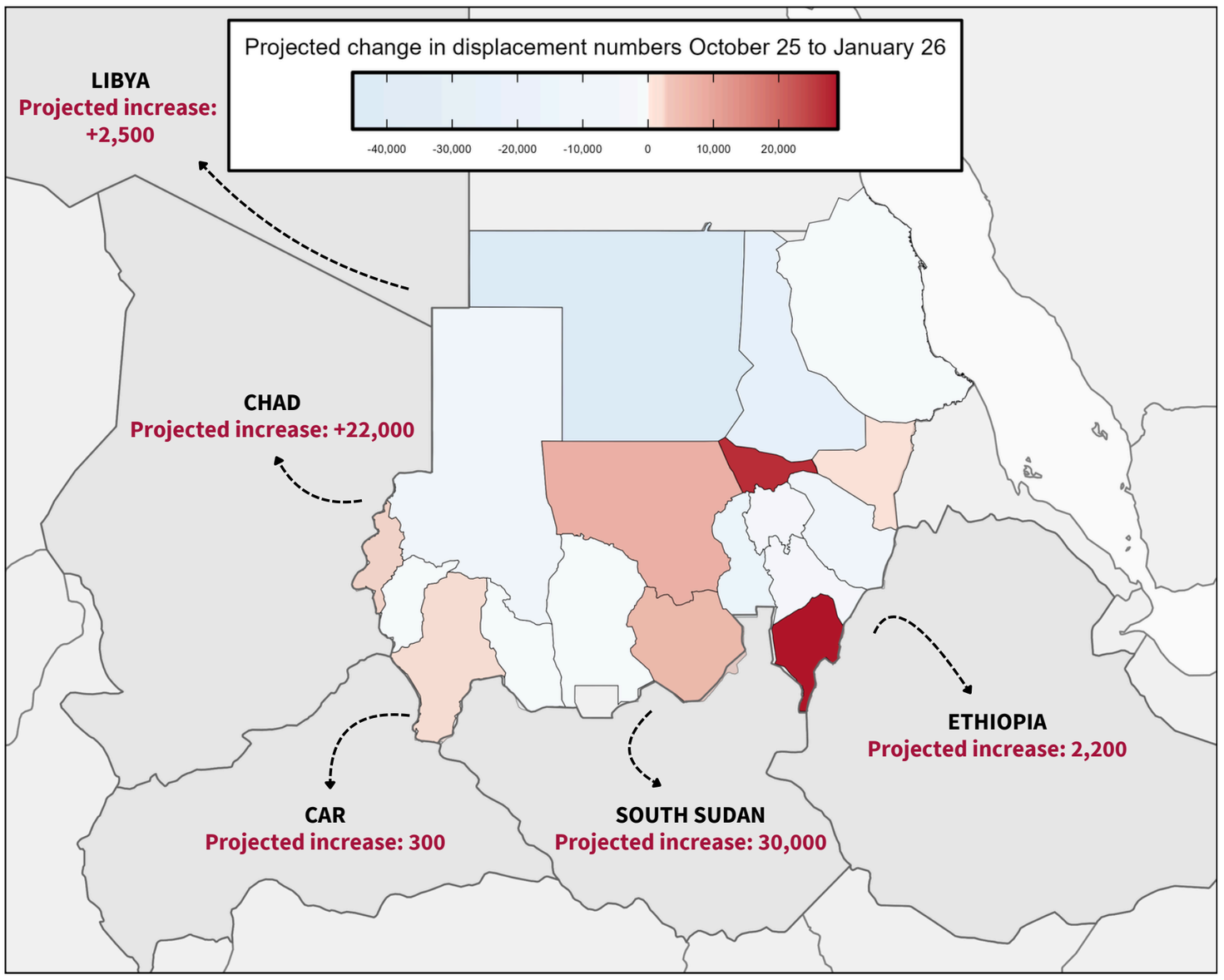
The largest projected increases in cross-border movements are expected towards South Sudan. Over the next three months, the **AHEAD model estimates an additional 30,000 movements into South Sudan. Movements into Chad are also projected to increase by over 22,000 over the same period.** More than 100,000 movements were already registered towards both countries since January 2026.

Cross-border movements into Ethiopia are expected to continue increasing, with an estimated rise of 2,000 by January compared to October estimates.

Movements into Libya are projected to rise by approximately 2,500. Smaller increases are projected for the Central African Republic. Cross-border movements into CAR are expected to increase by around 300.

+55,000

Projected increase in cross-border movements between October and January



PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

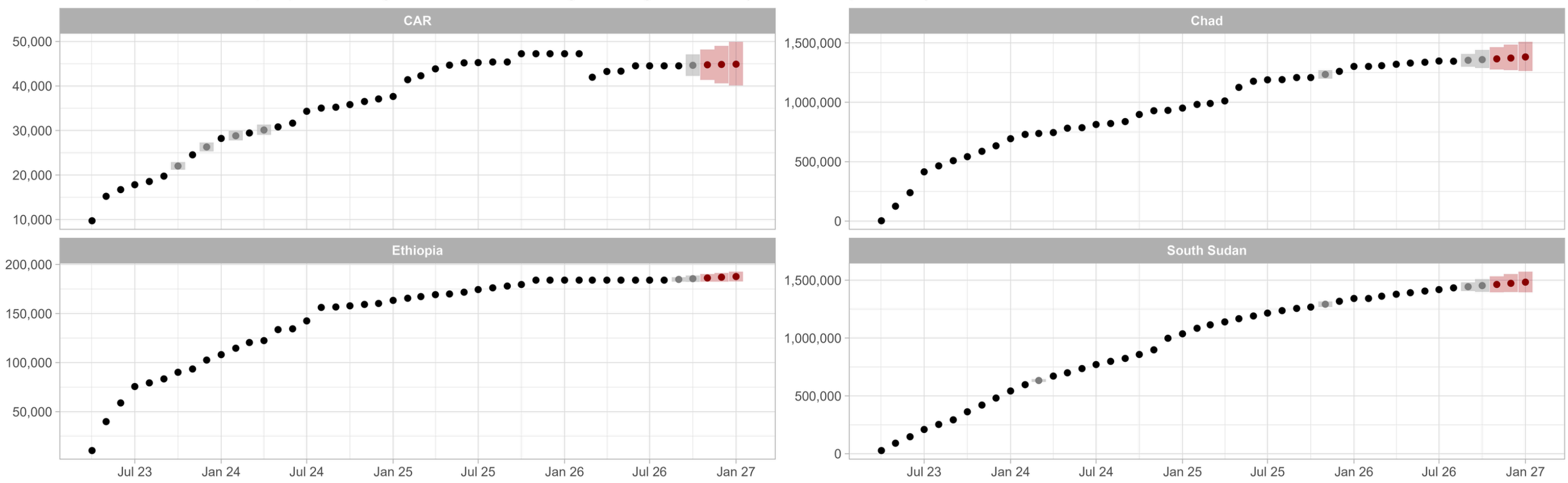
Over the next three months, the AHEAD model projects a continued increase in cross-border displacement from Sudan into neighbouring countries. **By January 2027, total cross-border movements into Chad, South Sudan, Ethiopia, the Central African Republic and Libya are expected to increase by over 50,000 compared to October estimates.** In South Sudan, DTM reported that approximately 1.43 million people had crossed from Sudan since April 2023 as of mid September 2026. Based on current projections, additional movements over the next three months are expected to increase the cumulative total to over 1.48 million by January 2027.

Movements from Sudan into Chad, Libya, and Egypt have continued since the start of the conflict. UNHCR reporting indicates that more than 569,000 Sudanese refugees have arrived in Libya since April 2023. For Egypt, which is not currently covered by the AHEAD model, available estimates published by DTM suggest that approximately 1,514,827 individuals crossed from Sudan into Egypt between April 2023 and October 2025, while an estimated 769,602 individuals were reported to have returned from Egypt to Sudan between January 2024 and June 2026.

Figures indicate that over 1.34 million individuals, primarily Sudanese nationals, crossed from Sudan into Chad between April 2023 and early September 2026. During the period from August 2025 to August 2026, an estimated 181,038 individuals were reported to have moved from Chad back into Sudan. AHEAD projections suggest that cross-border movements into Chad may continue to increase through December. UNHCR reporting from late September indicates that the pace of arrivals has accelerated in previous weeks.

At the same time, the number of people entering Sudan from neighbouring countries has reportedly increased since January 2026. IOM DTM recorded more than 500,000 arrivals during the first eight months of the year, including over 75,000 in August alone.

Cumulative number of people crossing from Sudan into neighbouring countries (since mid April 2023)



Note: Sudan's displacement data are sourced from IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix. Cross-border movements data are sourced from IOM and UNHCR Operational Data Portal.

SOUTH SUDAN

Internal displacements in South Sudan are caused by a wide range of factors, including armed conflict, communal clashes, land disputes, violence, seasonal hydro-climatic shocks, and cross-border spillover from the war in Sudan. Entering the November-to-January dry-season transition, displacement risk is shifting toward conflict hotspots in Warrap, Central and Western Equatoria, Unity, and Jonglei, layered atop protracted displacement from the 2024–2025 floods and ongoing cross-border movements along the northern border belt.

HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

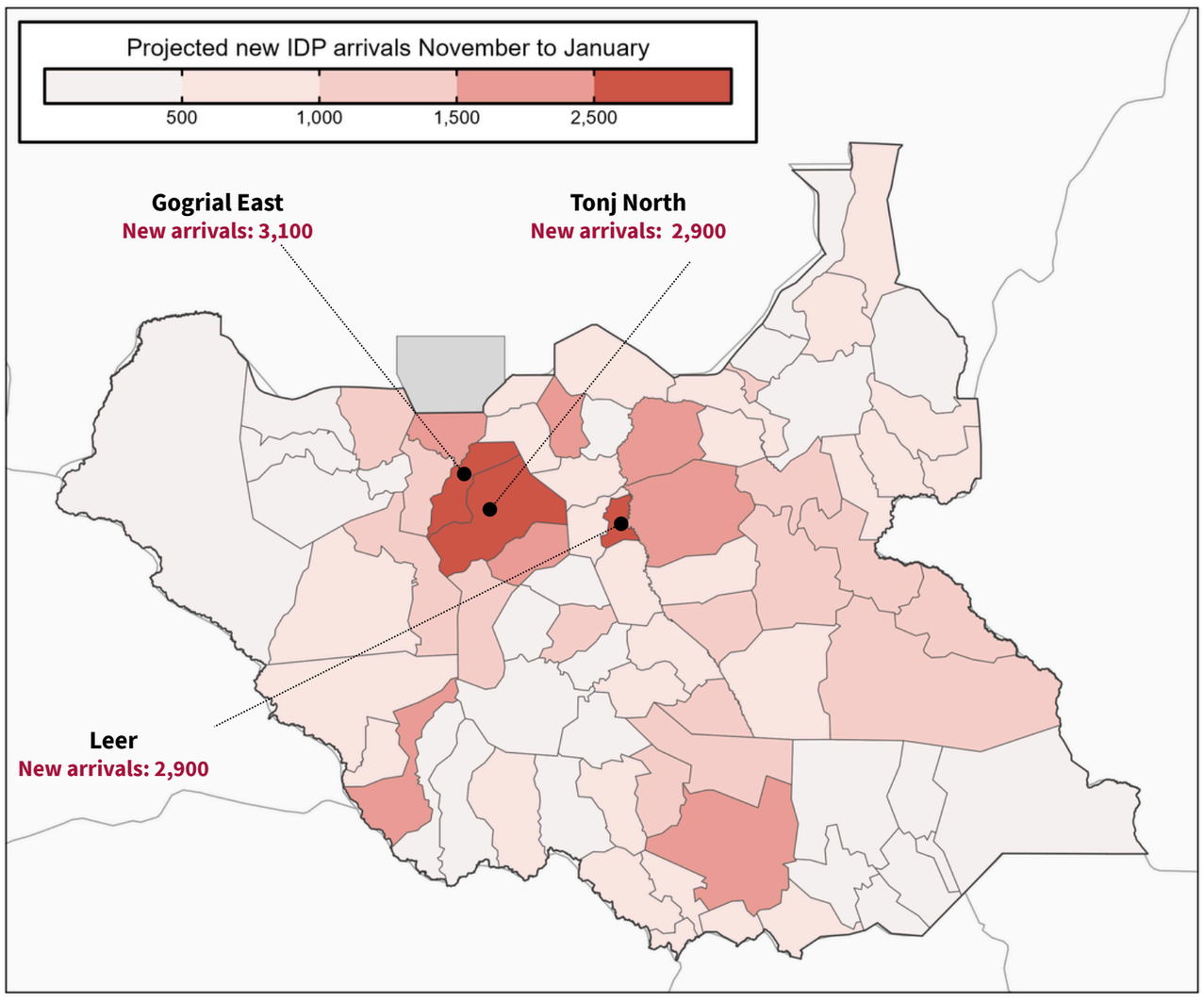
Over the coming three months (November 2026 to January 2027), the upgraded AHEAD model projects 71,300 new IDP arrivals across South Sudan's 78 counties. **The highest new displacement inflows are anticipated in Gogrial East (3,400), Tonj North (3,200) and Leer (2,900).**

As of 31st of October, IOM DTM estimated that around 484,000 people had been displaced since January. Most movements were reportedly reactive and linked to broader conflict dynamics.

Beyond the top three counties, elevated displacement pressure is projected across neighbouring Warrap and Unity—particularly Twic (2,500), Rubkona (2,300), and Tonj East (2,000)—as well as Juba (2,300), Ayod (2,200), Ezo (2,100), and Fangak (1,700).

71,300

Projected new IDP arrivals in November to January

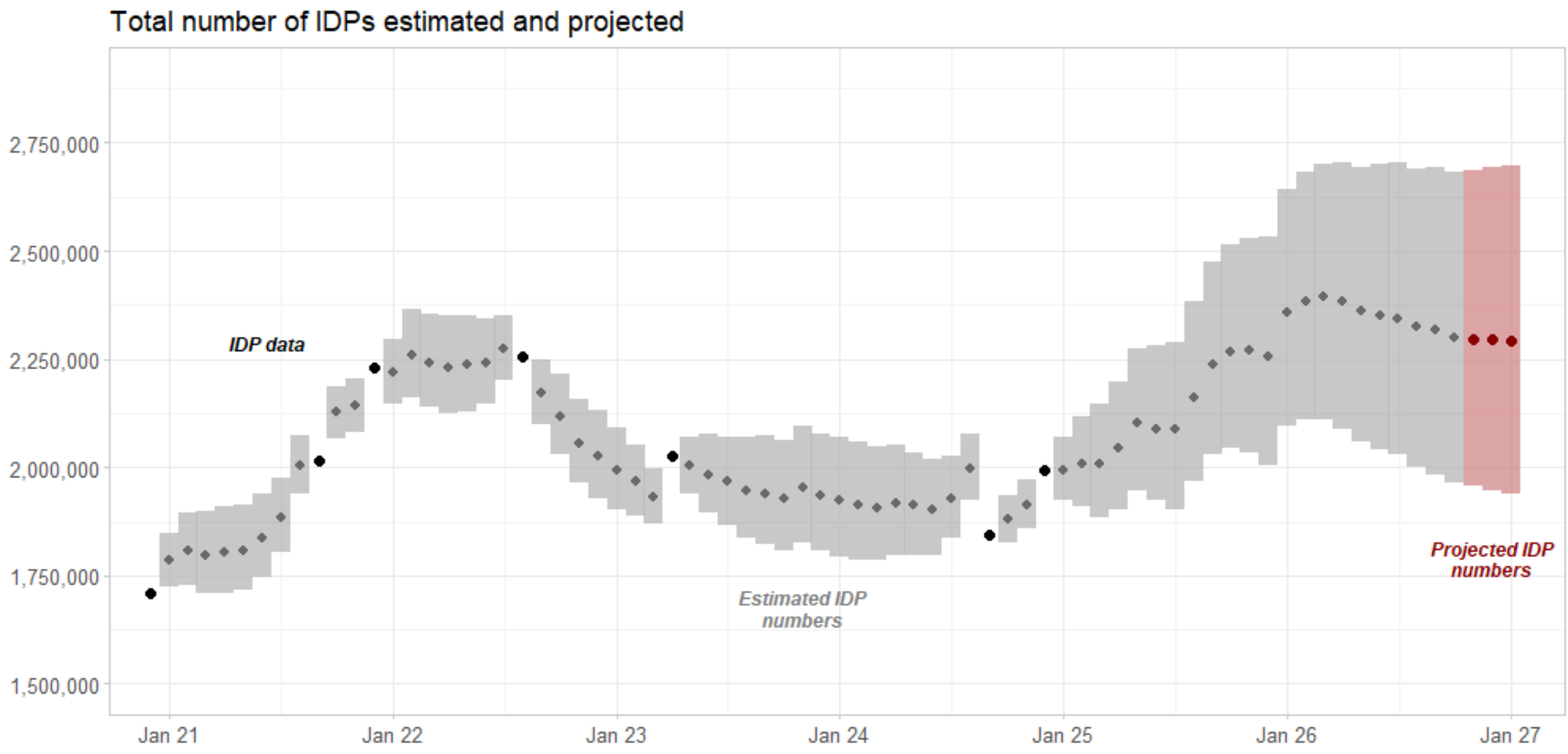


PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

Over the next three months, the AHEAD model forecasts 71,300 new internal displacements between November 2026 and January 2027, led by dry-season conflict escalation. As seasonal rains subside and ground mobility opens across rural corridors, conflict-induced arrivals are projected to rise steadily from November into January. Acute pressure is concentrated along the Warrap–Unity corridor—reflecting renewed mid-October clashes in Leer alongside spillover from severe late-October violence in the neighbouring Abyei Administrative Area into Gogrial East, Tonj North, and Twic.

Through October 2026, IOM DTM Event Tracking recorded roughly 484,000 new IDP movements since January, more than 96% of which were triggered by national, localized, or cross-border conflict. Unlike 2024 and 2025, when heavy wet-season rains triggered widespread riverine displacement, August–October 2026 rainfall across core floodplain counties ran roughly 27% below average, resulting in drier top-layer soils and no large-scale wet-season flood surges. Nevertheless, permanently elevated standing water in the Sudd basin continues to pose localized inundation risk during the late-season recession window, even as severe dryness elsewhere aggravates harvest shortfalls and food insecurity.

Methodology Update: Starting this month, the AHEAD model for South Sudan transitions to an upgraded model that explicitly separates new displacement inflows from return outflows, while also disaggregating hazards into distinct conflict and flooding streams. **Previously, the map and headline indicator reported net changes in total hosted IDPs, which could obscure acute new displacement emergencies whenever returns occurred simultaneously in the same county.** The updated model shows that while ~71,300 new arrivals are expected through January 2027, dry-season and post-flood returns happening at the same time are projected to hold South Sudan's overall hosted IDP population broadly steady near 2.30 million.



Note: South Sudan's displacement data are sourced from IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix. Additionally their Displacement Event dataset is used to estimate changes from month to month.

SOMALIA

Conflict and climate-related hazards continue to drive widespread internal displacement in Somalia. Drought, floods and insecurity have left millions displaced, with over 3.4 million people recorded by September 2025. IOM and DRC developed a multi-hazard model to produce quarterly forecasts estimating the number of people displaced by conflict, drought and floods. As projections are made quarterly, the figures shown here are the same as in the previous snapshots. Figures are also available here: Somalia Movement Projections Dashboard.

HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

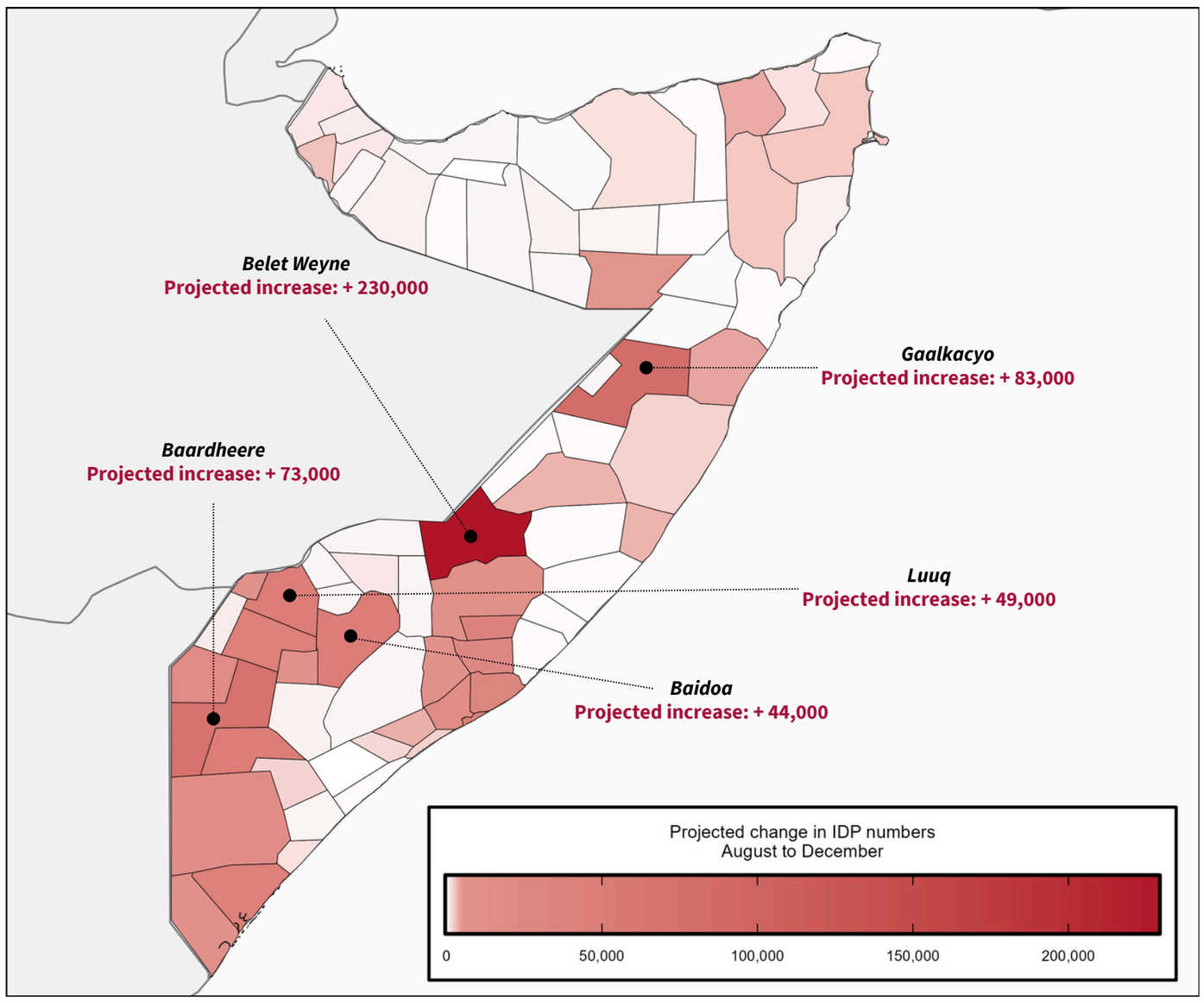
The district-level displacement projections draw on the seasonal outlook first issued in August, which indicated a high likelihood of above-normal rainfall across much of central and southern Somalia. Flooding through late October was less extensive than expected, and by 11 November the Shabelle at Belet Weyne had fallen well below its moderate flood-risk threshold.

Flooding accounts for most of the projected increase, though the scale of displacement will depend on rainfall and river levels through the rest of the Deyr season. Belet Weyne has the largest projected increase (+230,000), followed by Gaalkacyo (+83,000), Baardheere (+73,000), Luuq (+49,000) and Baidoa (+44,000).

Conflict-related displacement is also projected to rise, with the largest increases in Banadir (+15,000), followed by Balcad (+7,800) and Qansax Dheere (+5,000).

+ 870,000

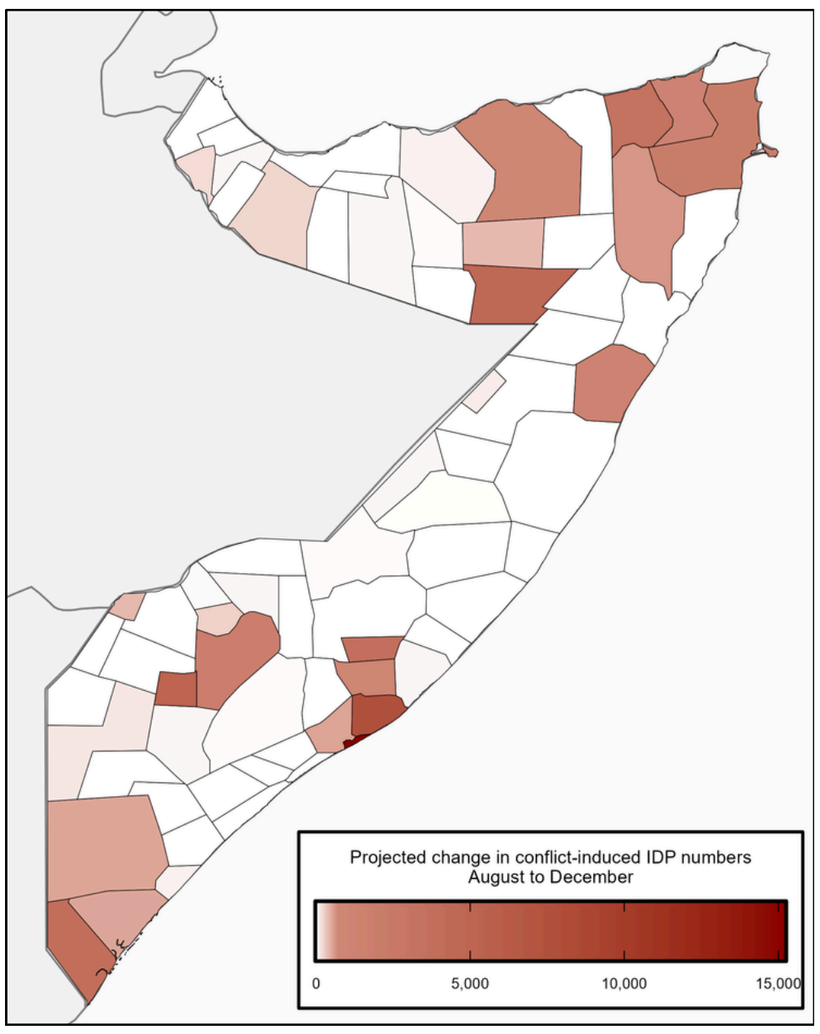
Projected IDP increase between August and December

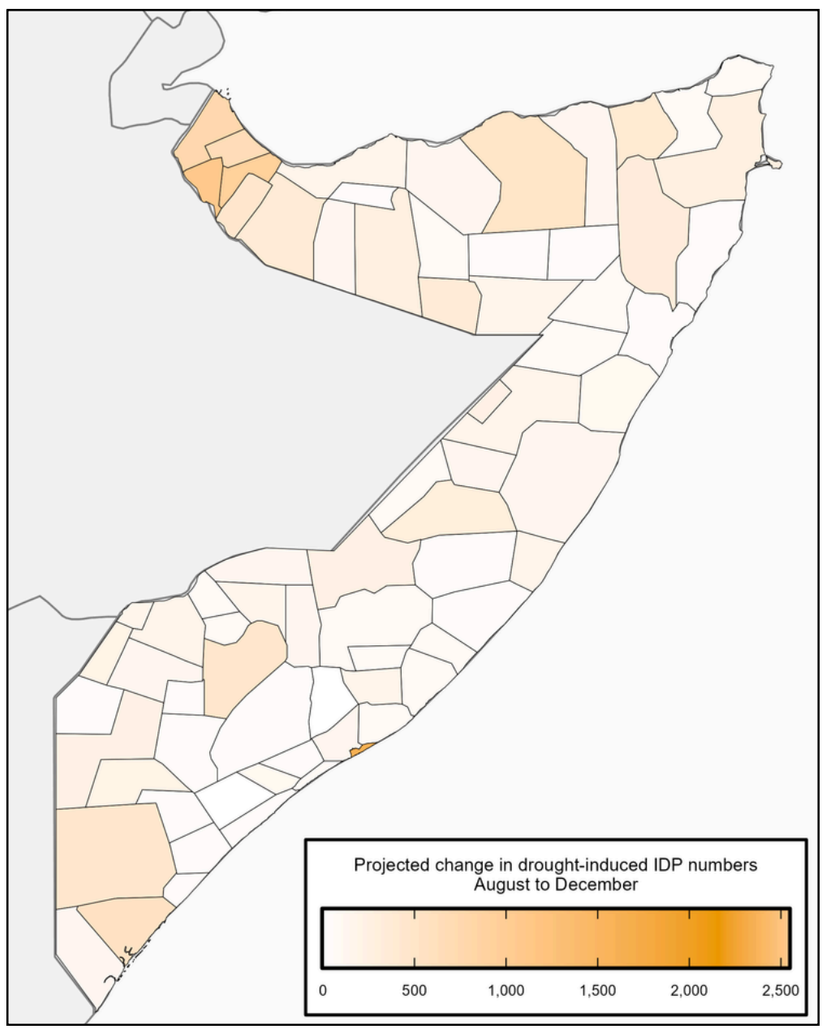


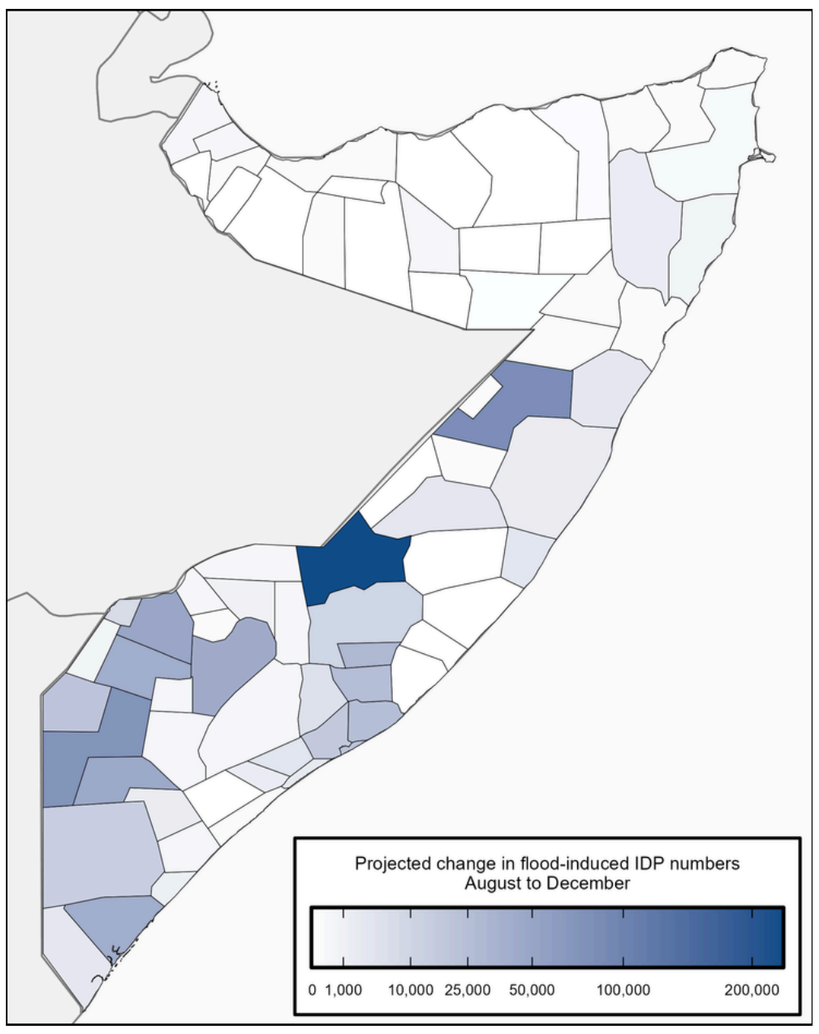
PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

Conflict may account for around 7% of the projected increase. Conflict-induced displacement nevertheless remains likely, particularly in southern and central Somalia. In Bay, clashes between federal and opposition-aligned forces in Baidoa on 17 August caused several casualties, amid a wider deterioration in political tensions; ACLED recorded at least 78 armed engagements between these actors in Bay between February and late August. In Lower Shabelle, Al-Shabaab activity remained elevated during August, with analysis indicating that attacks in the region increased substantially between June and August compared with the first five months of the year. These dynamics could generate localized new or secondary displacement.

Flooding is projected to account for most of the overall increase in displacement during the October–December Deyr season. But the scale of that increase remains uncertain and will depend on where heavy rain falls and how river levels respond. FAO SWALIM reported that by 9 November, 30 monitoring stations had already received at least their usual rainfall for the full Deyr season, including Baidoa and Gaalkacyo. Rainfall eased sharply across much of southern and central Somalia in the first week of November, but localized flooding persisted. In Jowhar, breaches in river embankments continued to sustain flooding, while satellite imagery showed floodwater in Qansax Dheere and local reports indicated flooding in Baidoa. Heavy rainfall upstream in Ethiopia could still raise river levels along the Juba and Shabelle even where local rains have eased. These conditions leave scope for further displacement in exposed areas, while the projected total remains sensitive to how the rest of the season unfolds.







Note: Somalia's displacement data are sourced from IOM' Displacement Tracking Matrix and UNHCR-led Protection & Return Monitoring Network (PRMN).

UGANDA

By the end of October 2026, Uganda hosted over two million refugees and asylum seekers across various settlements. Over half originated from South Sudan, while roughly one-third came from DR Congo. Nakivale hosted the largest share, followed by Adjumani, Bidibidi and Rhino. In Uganda, the AHEAD model projects how the population of refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan may evolve across nine settlements.

HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

In Imvepi, the active population of refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan is projected to increase by approximately 500 over the next three months. Almost 4,800 arrivals were registered in the April-June period.

Figures in Adjumani have risen in recent months. The refugee and asylum-seeker population from South Sudan in **Adjumani is now projected to grow by roughly 3,800** by January 2027. **Modest increases are also projected in Rhino settlement, with an expected rise of around 800 individuals.** Between April and June, there were roughly 2,200 registered arrivals.

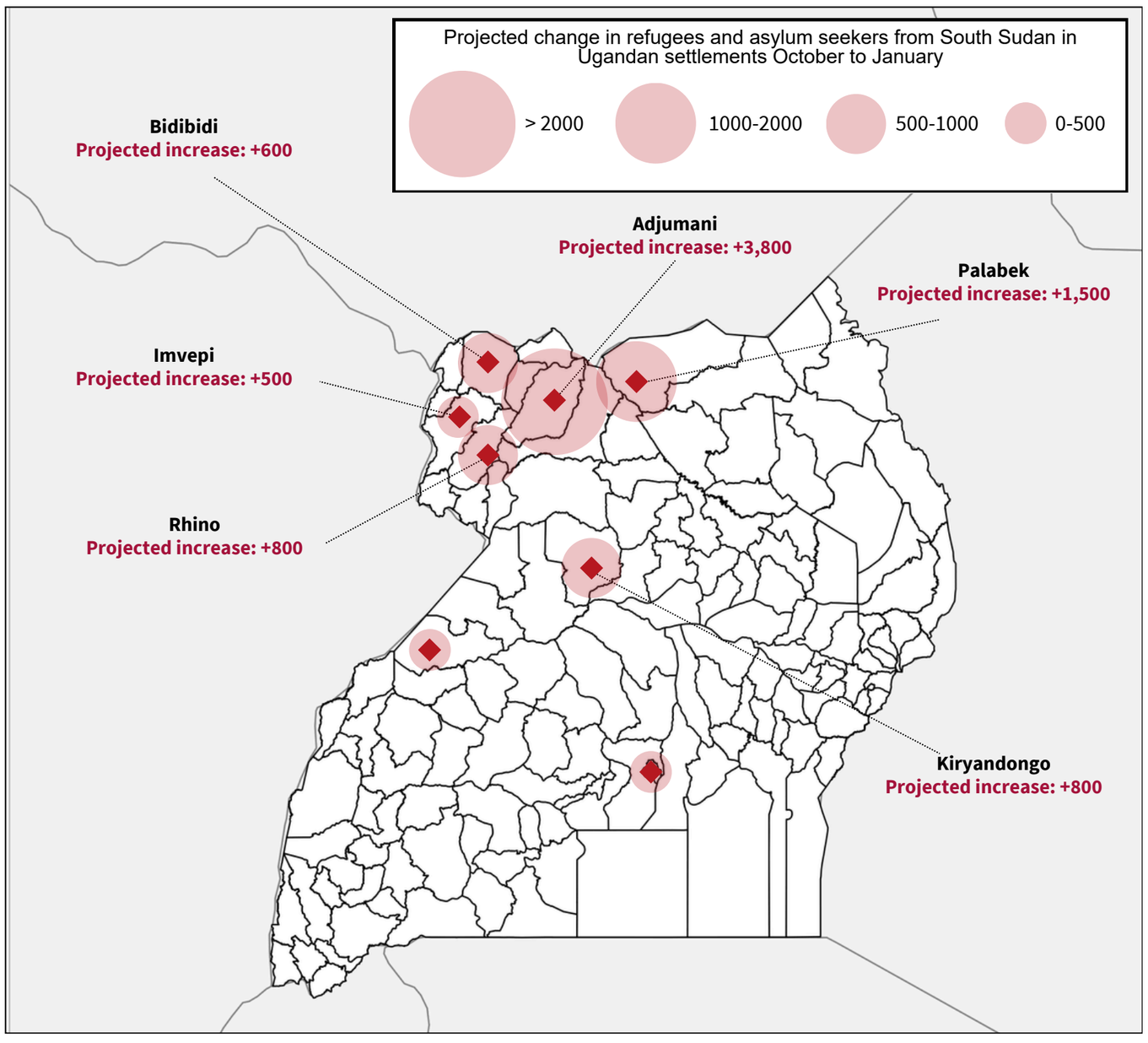
The forecasts remain subject to high uncertainty around reception and registration arrangements following the June disruption. Limitations would constrain recorded population growth, while an increase in registration activity could result in larger increases than projected.

1.07 MILLION

Projected South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers by January 2027

+ 6,500

Projected increase in South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers between October and January

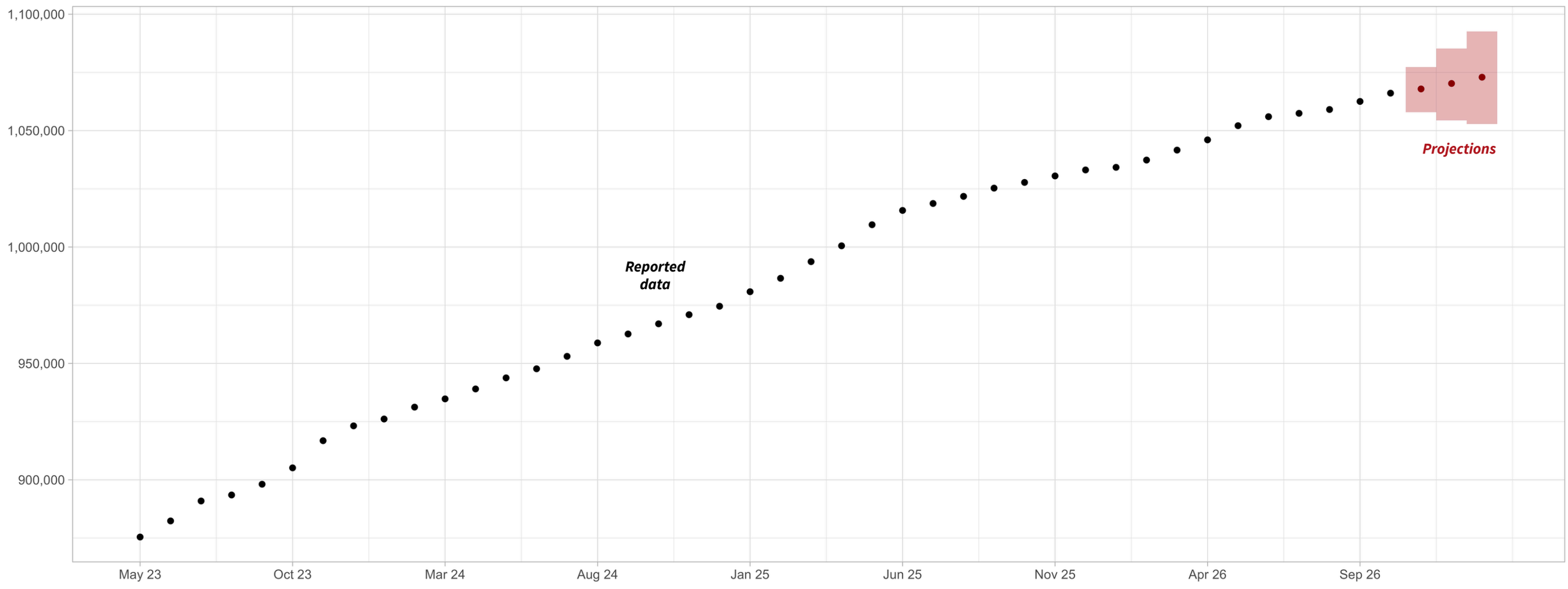


PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

Over the next three months, the AHEAD model projects an increase in the number of refugees and asylum seekers from South Sudan across nine settlements in Uganda. **By January 2027, the population is expected to rise by more than 6,000, reaching over 1.07 million.** This projected increase follows a period of renewed upward movement between end-February and end-May, when the South Sudanese refugee and asylum-seeker population across the modelled settlements increased by almost 15,000. Registration data earlier this year pointed to a marked acceleration in May, with more than 6,500 new arrivals from South Sudan recorded during the month, compared with roughly 3,400 in April and 2,500 in March. Registered arrivals fell considerably in June; the slowdown observed continued through the following months. As of late October, UNHCR's Refugee Arrival Movement Monitoring Dashboard had not recorded any new arrivals through Amuru during July, August, September or October. However, this decline coincided with temporary Ebola-related restrictions on the admission of new asylum seekers through high-risk border districts, including at Elegu from mid-June, and should therefore be interpreted cautiously. This recent pattern also contributes to the modest increases now projected for Imvepi and Rhino.

Admission and registration arrangements remain an important source of forecast uncertainty. Continued insecurity and food shortages in South Sudan could contribute to further movements towards Uganda, although their scale and timing remain uncertain. In August, OCHA reported that a prolonged dry spell in Eastern Equatoria had already prompted some communities to move into Uganda and Kenya. FEWS NET's October analysis reported rainfall totals below 60% of average in parts of Central and Eastern Equatoria. Its late-October briefing anticipated some relief from November rains in Greater Kapoeta, although it expected only limited recovery in crops, water availability and pasture.

Reported and projected active population of South Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers in Ugandan settlements



Note: Data on refugees and asylum seekers in Uganda are sourced from UNHCR. Settlement positions in the map are indicative and may not reflect precise coordinates.

YEMEN

Internal displacement has been ongoing across Yemen since the outbreak of conflict in 2015. In July 2015, IOM recorded 1.27 million IDPs across multiple districts. The latest IOM figures on the total number of IDPs indicate over 3 million people in accessible areas within 13 assessed governorates. Through its Rapid Displacement Tracking (RDT) tool, DTM monitors the estimated number of households forced to flee their locations of origin or displacement on a daily basis. The AHEAD model builds on these data to generate forecasts of new displacement across more than 50 districts in the governorates of Abyan, Ad Dali', Al Hodeidah, Al Jawf, Hadramawt, Lahj, Ma'rib, Shabwah and Ta'iz, assuming an average household size of six individuals, in line with IOM DTM approach.

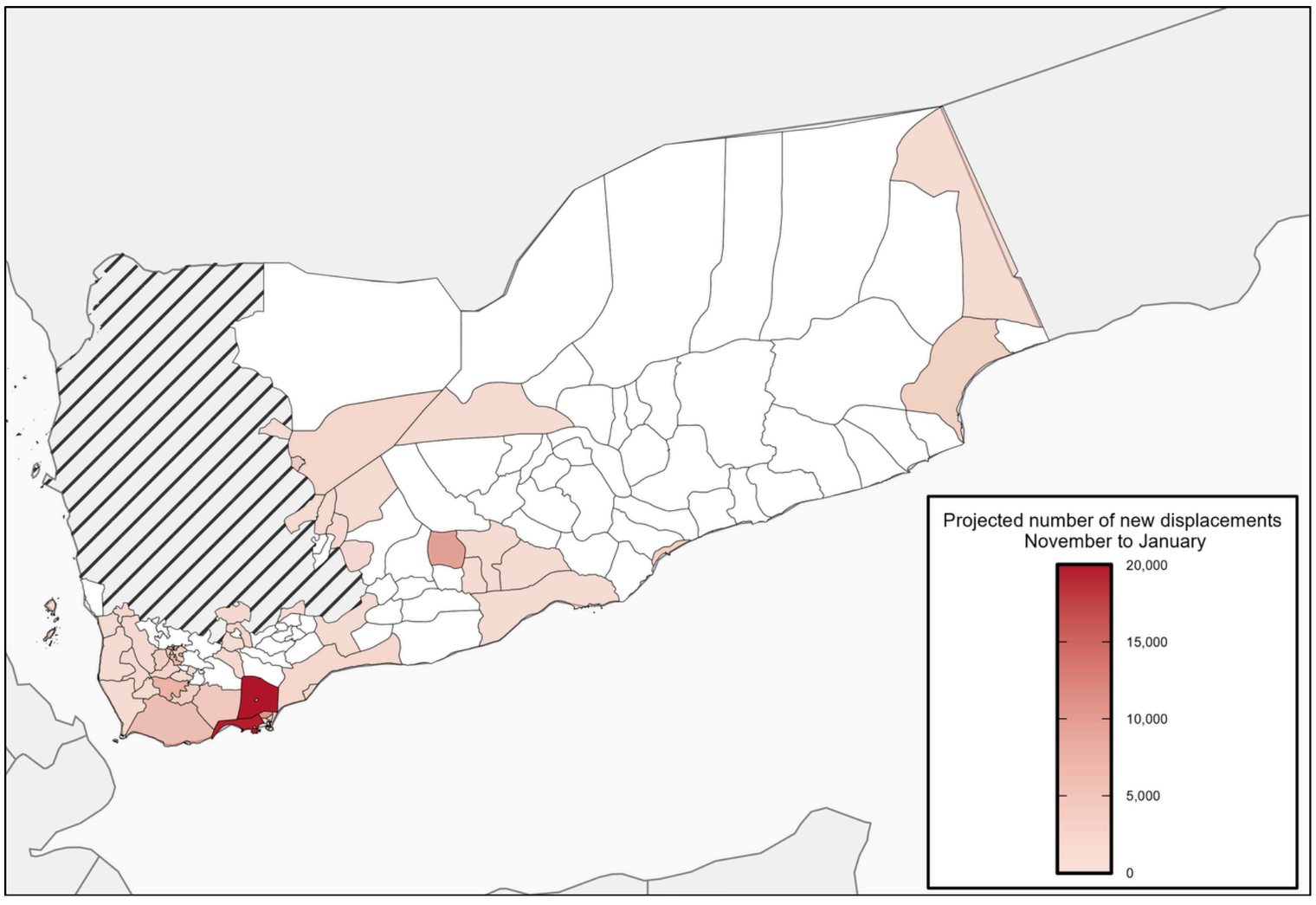
HOTSPOTS & KEY FIGURES

From November through January, the AHEAD model projects around 37,000 additional displacements in Lahj, the largest increase among the governorates covered. **The largest district projections are in Tuban (around 21,000), Al Madaribah Wa Al Aarah (5,200), Al Hawtah (4,300) and Tur Al Bahah (3,600).**

Ta'iz is projected to record around 35,000 additional displacements, with the largest increases in Al Mudhaffar (7,500), Ash Shamayatayn (6,800) and Al Misrakh (5,900). In Aden, around 35,000 additional displacements are projected, mainly in Al Burayqah (19,600) and Dar Sa'd (10,400). Ataq in Shabwah is also projected to record a substantial increase (8,800). The rapidly evolving context adds uncertainty, and larger movements cannot be ruled out.

+ 130,000

Projected new displacements between November and January

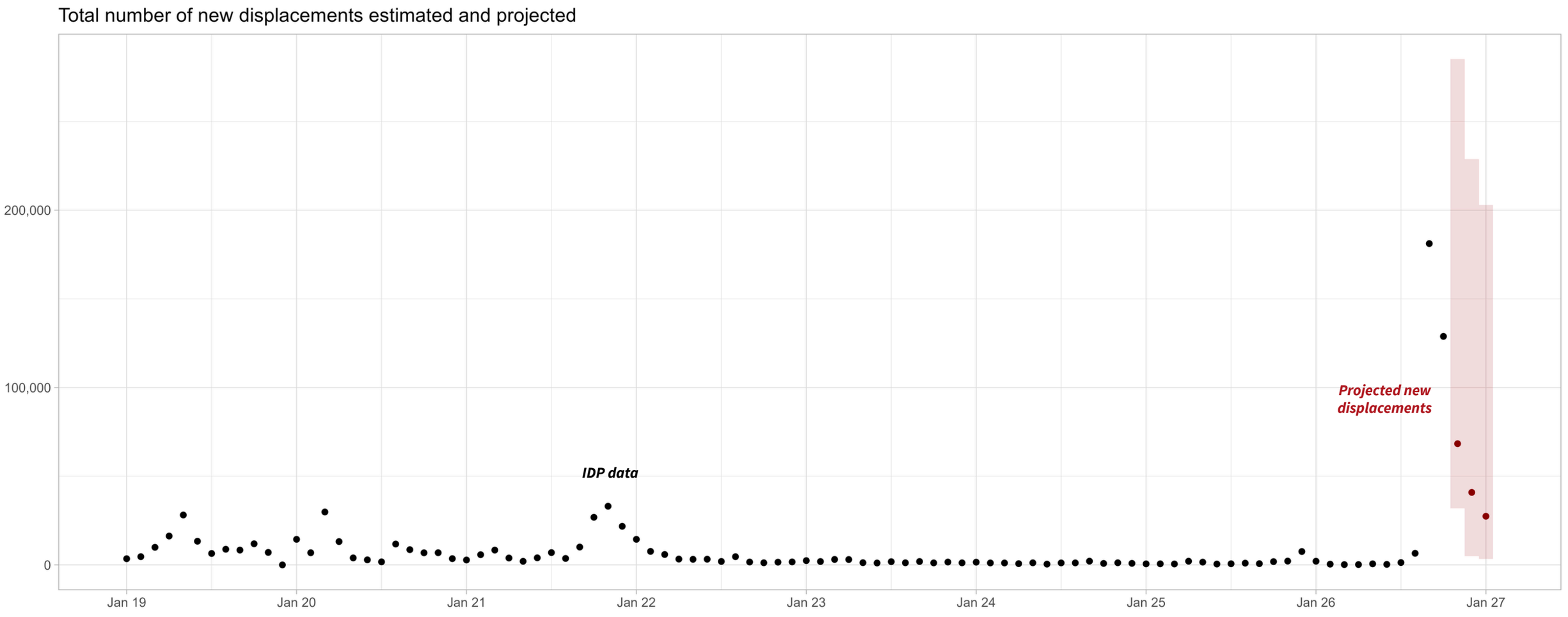


PROJECTED TRENDS & DRIVERS

The AHEAD model projects around 130,000 additional conflict-related displacements over the next three months across more than 50 districts, with the largest share currently expected in November. Hostilities intensified sharply in September and substantial displacement continued into November. In its 11 November flash update, IOM reported around 334,000 people displaced in connection with the escalation in western Yemen since June. Ta'iz hosted the largest share of those recorded, followed by Lahj and Aden. In IOM's weekly tracking, Ta'iz was the main destination in late October, while Lahj received the largest number in the first week of November, including more than 670 households in Tuban.

The UN Special Envoy reported in October that intense fighting had continued west and south of Ta'iz city and into Lahj, alongside intensified hostilities in Ma'rib, Al Jawf and Hajjah. FEWS NET's October outlook reported that conflict and displacement were sharply limiting access to food and income in frontline districts. It also identified a credible risk of Famine in Ta'iz city between February and May 2027 if the siege persists and restrictions tighten further. Among people displaced between August and early November, shelter and food assistance were the most frequently reported priority needs in IOM's flash update.

The projection indicates fewer movements in December and January, although the pace and destinations of further displacement remain uncertain. Sustained or intensified fighting could lead to larger movements, while shifts in where households seek safety could change the distribution of arrivals between districts.



Note: Yemen's displacement data are sourced from IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix.



The AHEAD Program: Scaling Conflict-Induced Displacement Anticipation to Diverse Settings

The Anticipatory Humanitarian Action for Displacement (AHEAD) project, supported by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is dedicated to advancing anticipatory action for conflict-induced displacement. Across Burkina Faso, Niger, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Uganda, Yemen, and Myanmar, AHEAD focuses on developing national conflict-relevant anticipatory action frameworks, ensuring they are inclusive and shaped by multiple stakeholders, alongside in-country pilots. A strong monitoring, evaluation and learning approach supports the project by generating evidence from in-country pilots to inform advocacy efforts at the national, regional and global levels.

The project uses a statistical model developed by DRC to predict displacement 3-4 months in advance and helps inform more cost effective and smart humanitarian responses. Ultimately, AHEAD seeks to elevate the role of anticipatory action connected to conflict-induced displacement, positioning it as a key strategy for humanitarian action. Thanks to collaborations with WFP and IOM, the model is also used to forecast displacement in Sudan and Somalia. The AHEAD model is being scaled to 19 countries by the end of 2027.

DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL

We are there

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