

## **SUDANESE RED CRESCENT SOCIETY**

### **Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) action during the COVID-19 pandemic to support migrants and refugees**

Sudanese Red Crescent Branch Northern state is the only humanitarian actor providing assistance and protection to vulnerable migrants and displaced persons in the State.

During COVID-19 crisis, SRCS was providing lifesaving assistance to migrants and Sudanese returnees deported from Libya such as food, water, clothes, first aid and psychological first aid, as well as COVID-19 awareness, masks, sanitisers, referral to health services and restoring family links (RFL).

The SRCS supported migrants and displaced persons living in the host community with emergency assistance and referral to healthcare, particularly those who lost their livelihood due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

In Northern state in Sudan, SRCS Branch is champion of humanitarian diplomacy - it has a prominent role of humanitarian advisor in the State Technical Committee for Migration, promoting a principled approach and respecting basic protection standards in treatment of migrants.

SRCS has strongly advocated for inclusion of migrants in healthcare, accommodation in quarantine facilities and other service provision, like Sudanese citizens, as well as for SRCS' unimpeded access to migrants and displaced persons for humanitarian purposes.

In the refugee camps in other Sudanese states, youth supported by SRCS volunteers led awareness and health promotion activities in the communities, reaching the most vulnerable persons. Community groups continuously advocated for addressing the gaps in basic services, exacerbated by COVID-19. Water points were established and protective materials distributed. SRCS provided humanitarian assistance such as non-food items, food, psychosocial support, healthcare to survivors of human trafficking and sexual and gender-based violence and residents of UNHCR's Kassala Safe House.