

# Sudan – Complex Emergency

August 16, 2021

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p><b>43.8</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Population of Sudan</p> <p><i>UN – June 2020</i></p>	<p><b>13.4</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance</p> <p><i>UN – January 2021</i></p>	<p><b>2.5</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of IDPs in Need of Humanitarian Assistance</p> <p><i>UN – January 2021</i></p>	<p><b>2.2</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of IDPs in the Darfur Region</p> <p><i>UNHCR – July 2020</i></p>	<p><b>1.1</b> MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Sudan</p> <p><i>UN – June 2021</i></p>
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- USAID Administrator Samantha Power visited Zam Zam IDP camp in North Darfur State and Um Rakuba refugee camp in Gedaref State to meet with displaced populations and observe USAID/BHA assistance during her visit to Sudan in late July.
- Heavy seasonal rains and resultant flooding had adversely affected 15,700 people across 10 states in Sudan as of early August.
- UN agencies reached previously inaccessible populations in Blue Nile and South Kordofan states and distributed humanitarian assistance in early June.



<p><b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b> For the Sudan Response in FY 2021</p>	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$386,449,290
	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$55,895,900
<p><b>Total</b></p>		<b>\$442,345,190</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

<sup>1</sup>USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)  
<sup>2</sup>U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### **Administrator Power Observes USAID/BHA Support for Refugees and IDPs**

USAID Administrator Samantha Power traveled to North Darfur and Gedaref states in late July as part of a five-day visit to Ethiopia and Sudan, her first visit to Africa since assuming the role of Administrator in late April. During the visit, Administrator Power visited Zam Zam internally displaced person (IDP) camp near North Darfur's capital city of El Fasher to meet with camp residents and observe USAID/BHA-supported response activities. Zam Zam, the second largest displacement site in the greater Darfur region, hosts approximately 120,000 IDPs, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). During the visit, Administrator Power spoke with women IDPs, who shared their experience living in the camp and highlighted obstacles preventing their return to areas of origin. Concurrently, other U.S. Government (USG) officials—including Director of the USAID Mission in Sudan Mervyn Farroe—met with camp leadership and youth representatives. Administrator Power also observed USAID/BHA-supported emergency health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities, including operation of a solar-powered water system. Since 2015, USAID has supported the conversion of water systems in Sudan—including in Zam Zam—from generator-powered systems to hybrid systems that rely primarily on solar power to increase access to safe drinking water. Administrator Power also traveled to Gedaref's Um Rakuba refugee camp to meet with USG partners and local officials, observe a food distribution conducted by USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP), and speak with women refugees from Ethiopia's Tigray region. During the visit to Sudan, Administrator Power announced more than \$56 million in new USAID/BHA humanitarian assistance to support health care and protection services, among other activities, in Sudan.

### **USAID/BHA Staff Assess Multi-Sector IDP Response in El Geneina**

USAID/BHA staff traveled to West Darfur State's capital city of El Geneina in early June to meet with USG partners and local officials and assess the humanitarian response for IDPs affected by recurrent violence in the state since January. Outbreaks of fighting in El Geneina in January and April resulted in widespread population displacement and generated significant humanitarian needs. As of late May, nearly 150,000 IDPs sheltering at nearly 100 congested, unsanitary gathering sites in El Geneina and surrounding villages were in dire need of humanitarian assistance; as of early August, the number of IDPs in El Geneina had decreased slightly to nearly 116,000 people, according to IOM. The USAID/BHA team noted significant WASH challenges in the Al Hujaj, Ministry of Agriculture, and University of El Geneina gathering sites, as well as in the destroyed Abu Zar IDP camp and the surrounding community. USAID/BHA partners are providing health, nutrition, and WASH assistance to prevent further deterioration of already dire conditions in the gathering sites, including potential disease outbreaks during the June-to-September rainy season. Despite relatively improved security conditions in El Geneina, failure to resolve underlying causes of the conflict risks a resumption of violence and continuation of the protracted displacement crisis.

### **Seasonal Flooding Adversely Affects More Than 15,700 People Across Sudan**

Heavy rains and resultant flooding had resulted in the death of one person, injured at least 45 others, and adversely affected approximately 15,700 people in 10 of Sudan's 18 states as of August 8, according to the UN. The flooding also damaged or destroyed more than 3,100 homes and generated humanitarian needs across Gedaref, Gezira, Khartoum, North Kordofan, River Nile, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur, and White Nile states. Meanwhile, heavy rains and recent flooding in Northern State adversely affected approximately 3,000 additional people across five localities in early August. Flooding has particularly exacerbated the humanitarian needs of displaced populations. In West

Darfur, flooding in late July and early August negatively impacted approximately 400 households, while stagnant water in the Ardamata IDP camp has increased the risk of waterborne diseases among camp residents, the UN reports. Heavy rains damaged more than 200 refugee shelters in the Alganna refugee site in White Nile's Aj Jabalain District in late July, according to the UN. A July 27 interagency assessment noted that the rains also damaged roads to Alganna, hindering access for trucks delivering safe drinking water to refugees. State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is rehabilitating damaged roads to allow access to the site and enable distributions of shelter supplies and relief commodities. In South Darfur's capital city of Nyala, heavy rains and flooding have adversely affected more than 1,500 households across several IDP sites, according to IOM. Relief workers are conducting assessments across the country to confirm the total number of people adversely affected by the flooding and identify humanitarian needs.

### **UN Reaches Populations in SPLM-N-Held Areas for First Time Since 2011**

Humanitarian agencies reached previously inaccessible areas of Blue Nile and South Kordofan states—known as the Two Areas—held by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) and provided urgently needed relief to local populations in early June, the UN reports. The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and UN World Food Program (WFP) successfully completed a humanitarian mission to five isolated enclaves—Blue Nile's Amora and Zozak areas and South Kordofan's Kau/Nyaro, Rashad/New Tegali, and Western Jebel areas. Humanitarian actors' inability to access the five enclaves and provide humanitarian assistance during the past 10 years has exacerbated food, health, and WASH needs, the UN reports. During the missions, with USAID/BHA support, WFP delivered 100 metric tons (MT) of nutritious biscuits to approximately 25,000 children in 83 schools. In the coming months, the UN plans to continue negotiations with the SPLM-N and the Government of Sudan (GoS) to increase humanitarian access in the Two Areas, where an estimated 800,000 people are in need of assistance.

### **Extreme Weather Worsens Conditions in Eastern Sudan Refugee Camps**

Humanitarian agencies have registered more than 46,500 refugees in Gedaref and Kassala states, as well as approximately 7,500 refugees in Blue Nile, as of late July, according to UNHCR. In particular, the UN agency registered approximately 275 new arrivals at the Hamdayet Transit Center, located near the Sudan–Ethiopia border in Kassala, during July and early August. UNHCR has reported a small but significant increase in new refugee arrivals in Sudan in recent months, particularly since the Government of Ethiopia declared a unilateral ceasefire in Tigray Region in late June.

With the onset of the June-to-September rainy season, extreme weather conditions—including strong winds and heavy rain—in late May and early June resulted in damage to nearly 4,000 household tents, latrines, and other facilities in eastern Sudan's Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps, which are hosting refugees from Tigray, UNHCR reports. With support from State/PRM, the UN agency and implementing partners conducted rapid damage assessments, provided emergency shelter materials, and distributed food assistance and relief commodities to replenish lost and damaged household food stocks. Humanitarian agencies are scaling up flood preparedness measures, including the construction and rehabilitation of nearly 40 miles of roads to both Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah, which is critical to ensure sustained access to the camps and approximately 15 host community villages throughout the rainy season.

## KEY FIGURES



**3.6 Million**

People supported with emergency food assistance



**\$37.6 Million**

In dedicated FY 2021 USAID/BHA support for life-saving health care programming



**\$34.9 Million**

In dedicated FY 2021 USG support for WASH activities



**14**

Number of USG implementing partners supporting programming to combat malnutrition

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports UNICEF, WFP, and three other partners to provide emergency food assistance to people experiencing acute food insecurity in Sudan, primarily through cash transfers for food and U.S., regionally, and locally sourced cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil. With USG and other donor support, WFP reached approximately 3.6 million people in Sudan with humanitarian food assistance in March 2021.

### HEALTH

USAID/BHA supports the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), IOM, UNICEF, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and 10 international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to provide life-saving health care across Sudan. USAID/BHA provides essential medicines, supports health facilities, and trains community health workers to support critical health needs, as well as coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response efforts. In addition, USAID/BHA NGO partners and State/PRM partners—including UNHCR—support essential health interventions for IDPs and other vulnerable populations in Sudan.

### WASH

State/PRM and USAID/BHA support WASH programming throughout Sudan to prevent and contain communicable disease outbreaks, including COVID-19, and improve access to safe drinking water. State/PRM and USAID/BHA funding supports partners to provide emergency WASH support for conflict-affected populations, as well as hygiene awareness sessions and safe drinking water to other populations in need.

### NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports partners on the forefront of efforts to prevent, identify, and treat acute malnutrition through the implementation of multi-sector integrated intervention approaches—including the provision of nutritional supplements, as well as health, WASH, and agriculture and food security interventions. Nutritional programming supports community- and evidence-based management of malnutrition by focusing on children and pregnant and lactating women in particular and supporting nutrition education.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- Ongoing conflict, protracted displacement, and climatic events in Sudan have disrupted livelihood activities and impeded access to natural resources and basic services. Fighting among the Sudanese Armed Forces, armed opposition groups, militias, and ethnic groups in Blue Nile and South Kordofan, Darfur, and Abyei Area has resulted in food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH needs. Humanitarian needs have been compounded by the ongoing economic crisis and the impact of COVID-19 containment measures. Additionally, Sudan experienced its worst flooding in more than 100 years between July and September 2020, affecting more than 875,000 people.
- In April 2019, a civilian uprising grew out of protests against high prices for bread, fuel shortages, and other economic issues. On April 11, Sudanese military officials overthrew President Omar al-Bashir in support of a popular revolution, and subsequent political uncertainty contributed to heightened humanitarian security and protection concerns. In August, a signed constitutional declaration laid out arrangements for a civilian-led transitional government for a 39-month period, with Abdalla Hamdok appointed as Prime Minister.
- Conflict and food insecurity in neighboring South Sudan continues to fuel an influx of South Sudanese refugees into Sudan, placing further constraints on GoS and host community resources. The UN estimates that 13.4 million people will require humanitarian assistance in Sudan in 2021, with approximately \$1.9 billion required during the year to provide life-saving assistance to the most vulnerable people in the country.
- Insecurity, access restrictions, limited funding, and bureaucratic impediments limit relief agencies' ability to respond to humanitarian and recovery needs in Sudan. Despite humanitarian access improvements since 2016, particularly in Jebel Marra—a mountainous region encompassing parts of Central Darfur, North Darfur, and South Darfur states—relief agencies continue to face a challenging operational environment in Sudan.
- On October 26, 2020, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Brian Shukan renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Sudan for FY 2021. The U.S. Mission in Sudan has declared disasters due to the complex emergency annually since 1987.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture, Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice (DRRPP), Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, Gezira, Khartoum, Northern, Red Sea, River Nile, Sennar, South Kordofan, West Darfur	\$74,729,783
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Agriculture, Food Assistance, WASH	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, Gedaref, Kassala, Red Sea, Sennar, South Kordofan, West Darfur, West Kordofan	\$9,000,000

IFRC	Agriculture, DRRPP, ERMS, Health, Protection, MPCA, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Blue Nile, Gezira, Khartoum, Northern, Red Sea, River Nile, Sennar	\$1,674,670
IOM	Agriculture, DRRPP, ERMS, Health, Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA), Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$22,150,000
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$7,990,000
UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)	HCIMA	Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur	\$1,000,000
UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS)	Protection	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur	\$1,500,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur	\$1,300,080
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$17,343,359
WFP	Food Assistance—136,670 MT of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$147,090,798
	DRRPP; Food Assistance—Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Logistics Support; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$81,068,400
UN World Health Organization	Health	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Kordofan, West Kordofan	\$8,540,000
	Program Support		\$62,200
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$386,449,290</b>
<b>STATE/PRM <sup>2</sup></b>			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UNFPA	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,055,900
UNHCR	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$45,730,000
UNICEF	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$5,110,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$55,895,900</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021</b>			<b>\$442,345,190</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of August 16, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Total State/PRM funding includes assistance to refugees residing in Sudan, which is also reported in the USG South Sudan Complex Emergency Fact Sheet as part of the South Sudan regional response and the USG Tigray Crisis Fact Sheet as part of the Tigray regional response

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## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)