

# SUDAN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #1, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020

DECEMBER 18, 2019

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**9.3 million**

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Sudan  
UN – December 2019

**1.87 million**

IDPs in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Sudan  
UN – October 2019

**1.1 million**

Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Sudan  
UN – December 2019

**811,452**

South Sudanese Refugees in Sudan  
UNHCR – November 2019

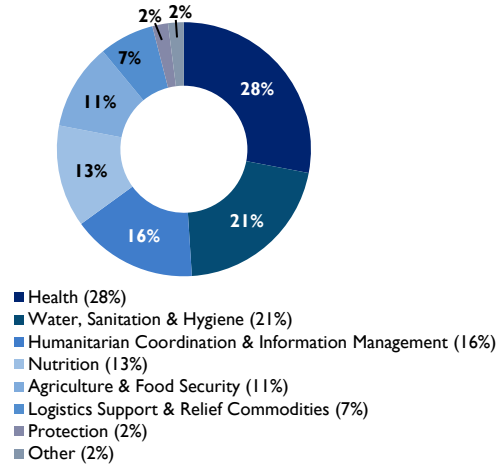
**330,725**

Sudanese Refugees in Chad  
UNHCR – October 2019

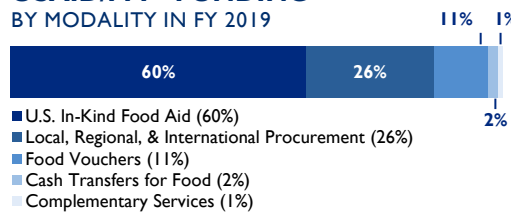
**274,916**

Sudanese Refugees in South Sudan  
UNHCR – November 2019

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2019



## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2019



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Improved security conditions and humanitarian access ease operational challenges for relief actors
- HAC revokes registration for more than 50 local NGOs
- Vector-borne and waterborne disease transmission increases following widespread flooding

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2019

|                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| USAID/OFDA             | \$94,501,699         |
| USAID/FFP              | \$202,080,454        |
| State/PRM <sup>3</sup> | \$59,533,500         |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>\$356,115,653</b> |

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The Government of Sudan (GoS) has begun reforming and restructuring its Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) in order to ease humanitarian access restrictions and other operational impediments, as well as permitting some non-governmental organizations (NGOs) previously expelled by the former government to return to Sudan. However, relief actors note that challenges remain, particularly concerning freedom of movement.
- Despite improvements in humanitarian access and security conditions, an estimated 9.3 million people in Sudan were in need of humanitarian assistance as of early December, representing an increase of approximately 800,000 people from mid-year estimates, according to the UN's newly released 2020 Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO). The GHO estimates that \$1.4 billion in humanitarian funding is required to meet emergency needs in Sudan in 2020.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM). State/PRM funding includes assistance to refugees residing in Sudan, which is also reported in the South Sudan fact sheet as part of the South Sudan regional response.

## CURRENT EVENTS

- In recent months, the HAC has expressed intentions to ease restrictions on humanitarian organizations imposed under former President Omar al-Bashir's regime, relief actors report. On December 3, the HAC announced several changes to the agency's oversight policies for humanitarian organizations. International NGOs (INGOs) are no longer required to involve the HAC in recruitment of national staff. In addition, the HAC plans to coordinate with the GoS Ministry of Finance to obtain customs exemptions for humanitarian materials imported by INGOs and help facilitate INGO vehicle licensing. The HAC has also reportedly begun accepting travel notifications in lieu of requiring travel permits, verbally consented to allow multi-year agreements for INGO programming, and decreased processing time for technical agreements. Moreover, on November 21, the HAC approved a request from the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to resume humanitarian operations in Sudan, after expelling IRC, along with several other humanitarian INGOs, in 2009. Despite these changes, relief actors note challenges in delivery on the ground and continue to advocate additional HAC reforms, including removing obstacles to freedom of movement in non-conflict areas, issuance of multiple-entry visas for INGO international staff, and permission to conduct assessment missions without security escorts.
- Between November 21 and 24, the HAC issued three executive decisions effectively canceling the registration of more than 50 national NGOs conducting humanitarian work in Sudan. Alleging that the NGOs had committed registration and funding violations, the HAC ordered the NGOs to cease all activities, seized their assets, and froze their bank accounts. Several affected NGOs have denounced the HAC's actions, demanding a fair and transparent investigation of all alleged violations, and are currently seeking legal action to overturn the HAC decision. The UN Humanitarian Country Team has requested that the GoS release the assets and data under the custody of these NGOs to the broader humanitarian community to avoid a disruption of humanitarian programming in Sudan. USAID is currently evaluating the impact of the HAC decision on its humanitarian programs.
- Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Mark Lowcock travelled to Sudan from November 22 to 24 to observe humanitarian conditions and advocate increased international support to relief efforts in the country. ERC Lowcock visited communities and health facilities in eastern Sudan's Kassala State, where the economic crisis and recent flooding have contributed to disease outbreaks and increased food insecurity. In Sudan's capital city of Khartoum, the ERC met with Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and other members of the transitional government. Lowcock lauded recent government efforts to improve humanitarian access and resolve conflict throughout the country; however, he also emphasized the fragility of the situation, as humanitarian conditions continue to deteriorate due to climatic shocks, disease, and economic stagnation.
- On October 31, the UN Security Council (UNSC) adopted Resolution 2495, which extended the mandate of the African Union-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) through October 31, 2020, and reiterated calls for the transitional government, Darfur armed movements, and other stakeholders to meaningfully engage in peace negotiations. The UNSC resolution further noted that UNAMID will maintain its current troop and police numbers until March 31, 2020, at which point the UNSC intends to adopt a new resolution regarding the responsible drawdown and exit of UNAMID and establishment of a follow-on Mission.

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## FLOODING AND HEALTH

- Heavy rains and subsequent flooding adversely affected more than 426,000 people across 17 of Sudan's 18 states between July and November, according to the UN. Flooding resulted in the deaths of 78 people and damaged or destroyed more than 85,000 houses, 25,000 latrines, and nearly 1,300 education facilities. The floods most heavily impacted White Nile State, affecting more than 147,000 people, followed by Kassala, Khartoum, and West Kordofan states, where flooding affected more than 100,000 people cumulatively. Additionally, heavy rains and flooding between June and September in southern parts of Abyei Area displaced an estimated 40,000 people; destroyed critical infrastructure, such as bridges, roads, and public facilities; and led to the contamination of water sources, according to the UN. The flooding also resulted in an estimated 7,000 livestock deaths and damaged nearly 75,000 acres of farmland across Abyei.

- From November 18 to 21, USAID staff visited northern White Nile’s Ed Duem and Um Rimta localities to monitor flood response activities, including commodity distributions and cholera awareness-raising sessions, supported by the International Organization for Migration (IOM)-managed Rapid Response Fund (RRF); USAID/OFDA contributed \$2.8 million to the RRF in FY 2019. In Um Rimta, RRF partner the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) reached approximately 2,300 people with shelter materials, including bamboo, ties, and plastic sheeting, as well as hygiene supplies. Likewise, in Ed Duem, RRF partner the Catholic International Development Charity reached nearly 9,200 people with relief commodities, including blankets, jerry cans, plastic sheeting, sleeping mats, and soap.
- Flooding and high levels of stagnant water have exacerbated transmission of vector-borne diseases, including chikungunya, dengue fever, malaria, and Rift Valley fever (RVF), as well as waterborne diseases, particularly cholera, across 14 states in Sudan, the UN reports. As of December 11, the GoS Ministry of Health (MoH) had recorded nearly 4,000 cases of dengue fever and 11 associated deaths since the initial detection of cases in early August; about 95 percent of all dengue fever cases have occurred in Kassala. The MoH further reported nearly 370 RVF cases and 11 associated deaths since August, with Red Sea and River Nile states accounting for nearly 99 percent of cases. Additionally, the MoH recorded nearly 240 chikungunya cases and five associated deaths across East Darfur, El Gezira, Kassala, Sennar, South Darfur, West Darfur, and White Nile states between October 2 and December 11.
- As of early December, the MoH had recorded more than 1.8 million malaria cases in Sudan in 2019, representing a 30 percent increase compared with the same period in 2018. In November alone, the MoH reported approximately 250,000 malaria cases in the Darfur Region. In coordination with humanitarian actors, the respective state ministries of health are leading response activities in affected areas, particularly community awareness campaigns, mosquito net distributions, and vector-control interventions. Key challenges include a lack of case management, laboratory diagnostics, and surveillance capacity at the state level, as well as a shortage of machinery to conduct vector-spraying activities, according to the UN.
- Additionally, while anti-malarial drug stocks are sufficient at the national level, supplies are low in some affected states, exacerbating the humanitarian impact of the increased malaria caseload, relief actors report. According to a joint MoH–UN World Health Organization (WHO) survey, the availability of essential medicines in Sudan in 2019 is at the lowest level since 2012, largely due to the effects of the economic crisis in reducing medicine imports.
- Since the late August onset of a cholera outbreak in Blue Nile and Sennar states, which subsequently spread to Khartoum and El Gezira states, the MoH had recorded more than 340 cholera cases and 11 associated deaths as of December 7. The MoH continues to work with relief actors to improve disease surveillance and other prevention and response measures, including vaccination efforts, in affected areas. From October 11 to 23, the MoH—in coordination with the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and WHO—conducted the first round of an oral cholera vaccine (OCV) campaign, reaching approximately 1.6 million people across eight high-risk areas of Blue Nile and Sennar—achieving nearly 98 percent of the targeted coverage in Sennar and approximately 85 percent in Blue Nile. The MoH and WHO conducted a follow-up campaign to administer the second OCV dose between November 17 and 21. Additionally, the Sudan Humanitarian Fund—a pooled fund managed by the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC)—allocated approximately \$3 million to WHO in mid-November to address immediate response gaps among communities affected by cholera and flooding.

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## **INSECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS**

- On November 13, UNAMID and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) led a joint inter-agency humanitarian assessment mission to Aja and Boulay villages in northern Jebel Marra—a mountainous region encompassing parts of Central Darfur, North Darfur, and South Darfur states—with the permission of the GoS and local armed groups, successfully reaching an area that had been inaccessible to humanitarian actors for approximately 10 years. NGOs and UN agencies are planning additional follow-up missions to the region and are working to gain GoS permission to access other parts of Jebel Marra.
- In late October, UN World Food Program (WFP) Executive Director David Beasley traveled to Kauda village, an area controlled by the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) in South Kordofan State’s Nuba Mountains, marking the first UN humanitarian mission to the area in more than eight years. Following the trip, RC/HC Gwi-Yeop

Son commended the governments of Sudan and South Sudan and the SPLM-N for their cooperation in facilitating the visit, and urged all parties to continue working toward enabling unfettered humanitarian access across all conflict-affected areas of Blue Nile and South Kordofan.

- From September 24 to 26, USAID/Sudan Mission Director Helen Pataki, accompanied by USAID/FFP and USAID/OFDA staff, visited South Kordofan’s capital city of Kadugli and surrounding areas to meet with USAID partners and other stakeholders and observe humanitarian conditions. Relief organizations are currently reaching more than 250,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in South Kordofan with humanitarian assistance, with UN representatives noting that access has steadily improved in recent years, even with continued SPLM-N control in some areas. However, the large number of IDPs in Kadugli and elsewhere in the state continues to strain local resources and exacerbate humanitarian needs, the UN reports. Mission Director Pataki visited several USAID-funded projects in the Kadugli area, including a WFP school feeding program, a UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) mine risk education program, a stabilization center operated by Concern Worldwide, and a health facility operated by Save the Children Federation (SCF).
- Since mid-November, improved security conditions and ongoing peace talks between the GoS and SPLM-N have prompted an estimated 9,700 people to travel from SPLM-N-controlled areas of South Kordofan to GoS-controlled territory in order to reunite with relatives or access basic services, humanitarian assistance, and markets, according to relief actors. Between 200 and 300 people were arriving daily in Kadugli as of late November, the IOM reports, and both NGOs and UN agencies are providing new arrivals with assistance. Additionally, relief actors have reported the returns of approximately 2,500 IDPs from SPLM-N-controlled areas to areas of origin in South Kordofan’s El Abbasiya locality.
- In early September, intercommunal conflict in Vakaga Province of Central African Republic (CAR) prompted several thousand Central Africans to flee to South Darfur’s Um Dafug locality, the UN reports. As of October 21, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the GoS Commission for Refugees had registered and verified more than 2,600 refugees in the area; registration and verification remained ongoing as of November 7. The UN estimates that new arrivals from CAR represent approximately 40 percent of the refugee population in the area, and that the number of registered refugees in Um Dafug will increase significantly in the coming weeks as the registration exercise continues.

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## FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Flooding, high staple food prices, macroeconomic instability, and persistent insecurity have increased emergency food assistance needs in Sudan in recent months, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). In October, millet, sorghum, and wheat prices were between 225 and 275 percent higher than the five-year averages. In addition, currency depreciation, high inflation, and shortages of fuel and cash have limited the ability of the private sector and the government to import essential food and non-food items, further exacerbating the food security situation.
- Harvests that began in October are expected to be average-to-slightly-above-average, which is likely to improve food access in the near term, according to FEWS NET. As a result, most areas of Sudan are estimated to face Minimal—IPC 1—or Stressed—IPC 2—acute food insecurity between October and January; however, higher than usual food assistance needs are likely in parts of northern Kassala, Red Sea, South Kordofan, and White Nile, as well as Jebel Marra, during this period, with these areas estimated to experience Crisis—IPC 3—levels of acute food insecurity.<sup>4</sup>
- FEWS NET projects that food assistance needs will remain elevated through at least May, particularly in agricultural and agro-pastoral areas. Additionally, with the approach of the May-to-September lean season—when food availability is typically the lowest—many of the nearly two million people displaced in Blue Nile, Darfur, and South Kordofan, as well as poor households impacted by insecurity, will find it increasingly difficult to meet basic food and non-food needs. Continued currency depreciation, rising staple food prices, and early exhaustion of food stocks in flood-affected areas are also likely to drive increased humanitarian assistance needs between February and May, with parts of Blue

<sup>4</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of acute food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

Nile, Kassala, North Darfur, Red Sea, South Darfur, South Kordofan, and White Nile projected to experience Crisis food insecurity outcomes during this period, according to FEWS NET.

- In response to sustained high levels of acute food insecurity in Sudan, WFP reached more than 2.3 million food-insecure people in October, distributing over 14,500 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food assistance and providing cash transfers valued at \$2.2 million. Additionally, UNICEF continued to provide nutrition assistance in the form of ready-to-use therapeutic food, treating over 128,000 children ages five years and younger with severe acute malnutrition between January and July, according to the UN agency.
- The prevalence of global acute malnutrition across Sudan is between an estimated 10 and 15 percent, with higher prevalence possible in some localities of Central Darfur, East Darfur, and West Kordofan, according to an October 2018 national nutrition survey. Late 2019 flooding constrained access to critical nutrition services in impacted states, prompting relief actors—with support from USAID/FFP partner WFP and USAID partner UNICEF—to distribute pre-positioned nutrition supplies.

## CONTEXT

- 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 has resulted in food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs.
- In April, 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 constitutional declaration was signed that laid out arrangements for a civilian-led transitional government for a 39-month period, with Abdalla Hamdok appointed as Prime Minister.
- In addition, conflict and food insecurity in neighboring South Sudan continues to fuel an influx of South Sudanese refugees into Sudan, placing further constraints on government and host community resources. The UN estimates that 9.3 million people will require humanitarian assistance in Sudan in 2020, with approximately \$1.4 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, relief agencies continue to face a challenging operating environment in Sudan.
- On October 24, 2019, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Brian Shukan renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Sudan for FY 2020. 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 2019<sup>1</sup>

| IMPLEMENTING PARTNER                          | ACTIVITY  | LOCATION    | AMOUNT       |
|---|---|-------------|--------------|
| <b>USAID/OFDA Funding in Darfur</b>           |   |             |              |
| NGO and International Organization Partners** | Agriculture and Food Security, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Health, Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, WASH                                  | Darfur-wide | \$34,164,922 |
| IOM   | Agriculture and Food Security, Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH | Darfur-wide | \$6,000,000  |

|  |  |             |                     |
|--|--|-------------|---------------------|
| UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)   | Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition | Darfur-wide | \$1,000,000         |
| UNICEF                                       | Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH  | Darfur-wide | \$7,495,000         |
| OCHA   | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management   | Darfur-wide | \$1,200,000         |
| UN Development Program (UNDP)                | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management   | Darfur-wide | \$8,160,000         |
| UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management   | Darfur-wide | \$750,000           |
| UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)          | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities   | Darfur-wide | \$5,000,000         |
| UNMAS  | Protection   | Darfur-wide | \$500,000           |
| WHO  | Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, WASH                  | Darfur-wide | \$6,200,540         |
|  | Program Support  |             | \$1,679,204         |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN DARFUR</b>    |  |             | <b>\$72,149,666</b> |

#### USAID/OFDA Funding in the Two Areas<sup>2</sup>, Abyei, and West Kordofan

|  |   |                                     |                     |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| NGO and International Organization Partners**                              | Agriculture and Food Security, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, WASH            | Two Areas, West Kordofan            | \$11,547,563        |
| FAO  | Agriculture and Food Security, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management | Two Areas, West Kordofan            | \$1,000,000         |
| OCHA   | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management                                | Two Areas, Abyei, and West Kordofan | \$800,000           |
| UNDP   | Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management                                | Abyei, West Kordofan                | \$200,000           |
| UNHAS  | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities  | Two Areas, Abyei, and West Kordofan | \$1,300,000         |
| UNICEF   | Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH   | Two Areas, Abyei, and West Kordofan | \$5,805,000         |
| UNMAS  | Protection  | Two Areas                           | \$500,000           |
| WHO  | Health, Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, WASH       | Two Areas, Abyei, and West Kordofan | \$1,199,470         |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN THE TWO AREAS, ABYEI, AND WEST KORDOFAN</b> |   |                                     | <b>\$22,352,033</b> |

#### USAID/FFP<sup>3</sup>

|                                |  |   |                      |
|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| Catholic Relief Services (CRS) | Complementary Services, Food Vouchers  | Central Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur | \$3,470,751          |
| UNICEF                         | 1,160 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid, 240 MT in Local, Regional, and International Food Procurement   | Countrywide                               | \$7,488,063          |
| WFP and Implementing Partners  | 123,920 MT of U.S. In-Kind Emergency Food Aid; 50,477 MT in Local, Regional, and International Food Procurement; Cash Transfers; Complementary Services; Food Vouchers | Countrywide                               | \$191,121,640        |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b> |  |   | <b>\$202,080,454</b> |

#### State/PRM Funding in Sudan

|       |  |             |              |
|-------|--|-------------|--------------|
| UNHCR | Multi-Sector Assistance, Protection      | Countrywide | \$52,333,500 |
| UNHAS | Logistics Support and Relief Commodities | Countrywide | \$1,500,000  |

|   |   |             |                      |
|---|---|-------------|----------------------|
| UNICEF  | Education, Health, Nutrition, Protection,<br>WASH Assistance for Refugees | Countrywide | \$5,700,000          |
| <b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN SUDAN</b>                                 |   |             | <b>\$59,533,500</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE</b>                  |   |             | <b>\$94,501,699</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE</b>                   |   |             | <b>\$202,080,454</b> |
| <b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE</b>                   |   |             | <b>\$59,533,500</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2019</b> |   |             | <b>\$356,115,653</b> |

\*\* USAID/OFDA funding in FY 2019 supports the following NGO partners in Sudan: ADRA, American Refugee Committee (ARC), CARE, Concern, CRS, GOAL, iMMAP, International Medical Corps (IMC), Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW), Mercy Corps, Near Eastern Foundation (NEF), Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), Relief International (RI), SCF, Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH), Vétérinaires Sans Frontières/Germany (VSF/G), War Child Canada, World Relief International (WRI), and World Vision.

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Government (USG) year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> South Kordofan and Blue Nile

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

## 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 [www.interaction.org](http://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, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.

More information can be found at:

- USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org).
- Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).