



# **Sudan – Complex Emergency**

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2021** 

### SITUATION AT A GLANCE

**43.8** MILLION

Estimated Population of Sudan

*UN – June 2020* 

13.4

Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance

UN – January 2021

3 MILLION

Estimated Number of IDPs in Sudan

UN – July 2021

2.6
MILLION

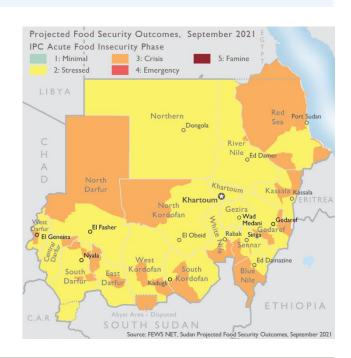
Estimated Number of IDPs in the Darfur Region

UNHCR – September 2021 I.I MILLION

Estimated Number of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Sudan

UN - June 2021

- Increasing violence in North Darfur State results in civilian deaths, property destruction, and population displacement between July and September.
- Heavy seasonal rains and resultant flooding had adversely affected 314,000 people across 14 states in Sudan as of late September.
- Relief actors register approximately 49,490 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in eastern Sudan as of September 30.





<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**

### Sub-National Violence Results in 429 Deaths, Increases Humanitarian Needs

Sub-national violence resulted in 429 deaths, approximately 1,070 injuries, and displaced an estimated 430,000 people across Sudan from January through September, according to the UN. The number of violent conflict incidents reported during this period was most concentrated in Central, North, and South Darfur states, accounting for 31 of the 50 cases—or 62 percent—reported during the period.

Clashes between organized armed groups (OAGs) in North Darfur resulted in civilian deaths, property destruction, and population displacement between July and September, relief actors report. From July 15 to September 22, clashes between OAGs in North Darfur's Kebkabiya locality resulted in at least 15 deaths and 25 injuries, according to USAID/BHA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Fighting between OAGs in Kebkabiya also damaged or destroyed more than 1,100 houses, contributed to the looting of several health facilities, and prompted many people to flee to the nearby Sortony Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camp. An interagency assessment mission identified nearly 31,900 IDPs sheltering in Sortony as of late September.

Meanwhile, armed clashes between Arab and Zagawah militias resulted in at least four deaths and nine injuries in North Darfur's Tawila locality during August. In addition, the fighting had displaced approximately 44,000 people across the state's Al Fasher, Dar As Salaam, and Tawila localities as of August 29, according to IOM. Approximately 78 percent of the individuals displaced by the violence were sheltering in the Shagra B, Shagra C, and Zam Zam IDP camps near North Darfur's capital city of El Fasher. Priority needs among displaced populations include food assistance, relief commodities, and shelter support.

In response to increased humanitarian needs in North Darfur, USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) distributed 780 metric tons (MT) of food commodities to 30,000 IDPs in the state during August; the assistance is sufficient for vulnerable populations to meet their food needs for three months. Meanwhile, IOM is coordinating with relief actors to track population displacement and provide multi-sector assistance to IDPs displaced by ongoing conflict in the region through the USAID/BHA-funded Rapid Response Mechanism. However, increasing insecurity, as well as heightened protection risks posed by the presence of OAGs, has prevented humanitarian assistance deliveries from reaching populations across the Darfur region in recent months. As of late September, nearly 2.6 million IDPs were displaced across the greater Darfur region, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

# Flooding Adversely Affects More Than 314,000 People Across Sudan

Heavy rainfall and severe flooding since late July had adversely affected more than 314,000 people across 14 of Sudan's 18 states as of September 30, according to the UN. The floods also damaged or destroyed approximately 62,000 houses and displaced approximately 101,000 people, most of whom were sheltering in public buildings near their homes or with friends or relatives. The Government of Sudan (GoS) Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources notes that water levels had started to recede below flood risk levels in many areas of the country as of late September, suggesting that flood conditions may improve in the coming weeks.

In response to heightened humanitarian needs resulting from the recent flooding, relief actors including USAID/BHA partners had provided shelter and relief commodities to more than 103,000 flood-affected persons across Sudan as of September 30. Humanitarian organizations also distributed emergency food

assistance to more than 94,000 people in Blue Nile, Gedaref, Gezira, Kassala, Khartoum, North Kordofan, River Nile, and White Nile states during period. The UN expressed concern that the lack of humanitarian organizations on the ground in Northern and River Nile states may adversely affect the timely provision of assistance to flood-affected populations.

# Food Assistance Needs Remain High in Sudan

Humanitarian assistance needs remained high in Sudan through September 2021, the peak of the lean season, due to above-average staple food prices and reduced household purchasing power, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET). Relief actors anticipate that conflict-affected communities and flood-affected areas may experience months of heightened humanitarian needs. Moreover, the number of people facing Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity is expected to remain above the five-year average, particularly among IDPs and conflict-affected households in the greater Darfur and Kordofan regions and parts of White Nile, as well as poor households in flood-affected areas in central and eastern Sudan.<sup>3</sup> However, the start of the harvest in October is expected to improve food security outcomes for most poor households. Seasonal rainfall has supported crop and pasture regeneration across most crop production and grazing areas, with the harvest for millet and sorghum projected to start in November. Crop conditions are generally favorable due to above-average rainfall from June to August, except in eastern Sudan, where flooding and waterlogging are likely to adversely affect crop production.

Between August and September 2021, average staple food prices either increased seasonally by 5 to 10 percent, remained relatively stable, or slightly decreased, depending on the type of commodity and the location, FEWS NET reports. A combination of increased market supply as traders release stocks in anticipation of the coming harvest, along with the continuation of high food prices, high production and transportation costs, and persistent shortages and high costs of imported wheat and wheat flour are influencing market prices. Staple food prices remain 100 to 200 percent above 2020 prices and 500 to 600 percent above the five-year average. Sorghum and millet prices are anticipated to begin seasonally decreasing by October 2021 with the start of the 2021/2022 harvest but return to above-average levels in March 2022 and through the post-harvest period.

### USAID/BHA Staff Participate in Mid-Season Crop Assessment

Three USAID/BHA staff members based in Sudan's capital city of Khartoum traveled to Blue Nile, Gedaref, Kassala, North Kordofan, Sennar, South Kordofan, West Kordofan, and White Nile states from September 5 to 16 to conduct a mid-season crop assessment of the 2020/2021 summer cropping season. The team worked in coordination with the GoS Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), state ministries of agriculture, and WFP to assess food prices at local markets, evaluate livestock conditions, and meet with civilian and local government stakeholders involved in the agriculture sector. During the trip, the team recorded an improved distribution of seasonal rainfall around the region, which may improve local food security outcomes. However, relief actors remain concerned that flash floods could counteract the effects of the improved rainfall distribution and increase food insecurity in flood-affected communities, particularly among displaced populations. In addition, the team noted the ongoing economic crisis in Sudan has reduced local access to agricultural inputs and fuel, resulting in a decrease in the total amount of cropland compared to 2020.

### UNHCR and Partners Provide Assistance in Eastern Sudan Refugee Camps

Humanitarian agencies have registered approximately 49,490 Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

eastern Sudan as of September 30, according to UNHCR. Of the total, relief actors registered more than 5,900 Ethiopian new arrivals at Kassala's Hamdayet Transit Center and nearly 2,100 Qemant asylum seekers in Gedaref's Basinga town between early July and late September. UNHCR and partners are providing life-saving assistance to the recently arrived population, including health services, hot meals, relief commodities, and safe drinking water, while UNHCR and partners in Hamdayet are conducting weekly visits to identify and refer vulnerable individuals for protection services.

With support from State/PRM, UNHCR provided a total of 980,000 liters of safe drinking water—including water pumped from rivers and treated via water treatment plants, water drawn from boreholes, and water supplied through trucking—in Hamdayet and Gedaref's Um Rakuba and Tunaydbah camps in late September. UNHCR and partners also continue to improve latrine coverage across the three locations and have constructed more than 900 latrines in Um Rakuba and nearly 1,200 in Tunaydbah to date. Relief actors have also constructed emergency water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities—including two 10,000-liter water tanks and 16 latrine blocks—in Gedaref's Basunda town.

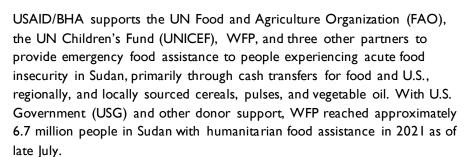
U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

#### **KEY FIGURES**

# FOOD SECURITY



People supported with emergency food assistance supported by the USG and other





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

### **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 I0 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, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Sudan.



In dedicated FY 2021 USG support for WASH activities

### **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 FAO, IFRC, IOM, UNICEF, WHO, and 15 NGO partners to provide emergency WASH support for conflict-affected populations, as well as hygiene awareness sessions and safe drinking water to additional populations in need.



Number of USG implementing partners supporting programming to combat malnutrition

### 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 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

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
	USAID/BHA		
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture; Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice (DRRPP); Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS); Health; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Humanitarian Policy, Studies, Analysis, or Applications; Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Nutrition; Protection; Shelter and Settlements; WASH	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, Gedaref, Gezira, Khartoum, North Darfur, Northern, Red Sea, River Nile, Sennar, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur	\$69,719,095
FAO	Agriculture, Food Assistance–Cash Transfers, WASH	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, Gezira, Khartoum, Northern, Red Sea, River Nile, Sennar, South Kordofan, West Darfur	\$9,000,000
IFRC	Agriculture, DRRPP, ERMS, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Blue Nile, Gezira, Khartoum, Nile, Northern, Red Sea, Sennar	\$1,674,670
IOM	Agriculture, DRRPP, ERMS, Health, HCIMA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$22,150,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (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
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur	\$1,300,080
UNICEF	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$17,606,285
UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS)	Protection	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur	\$1,500,000
	Food Assistance–136,670 Metric Tons (MT) of U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$148,228,096
WFP	Agriculture; DRRPP; Food Assistance–Local, Regional, and International Procurement; HCIMA; Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$91,068,400
wнo	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur, West Kordofan	\$8,540,000
	Program Support		\$140,229
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDIN	IG		\$382,916,855
	STATE/PRM		
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$8,175,000
IPs	Protection, ERMS	Countrywide	\$25,000
UNFPA	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,055,900
UNHCR	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$93,630,000
UNICEF	Multi-sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$6,010,000

### TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2021

\$494,812,755

### **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.
- 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
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work

<sup>&</sup>lt;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 September 30, 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 Northern Ethiopia Crisis Fact Sheet as part of the Northern Ethiopia regional response.