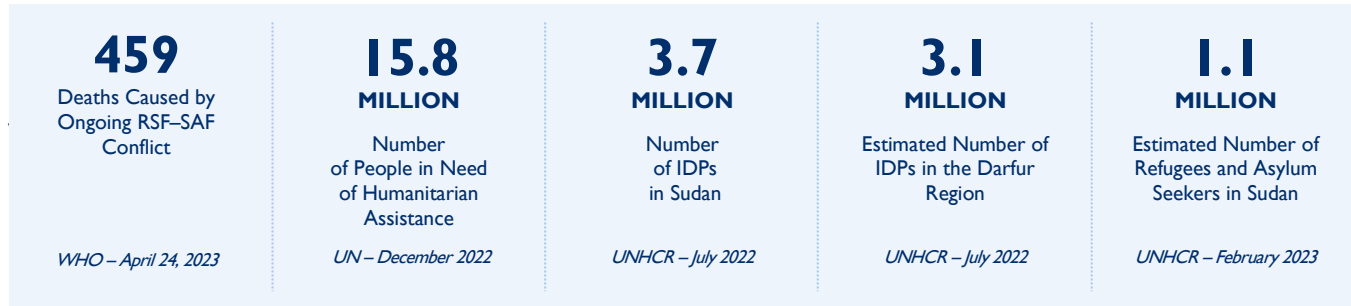


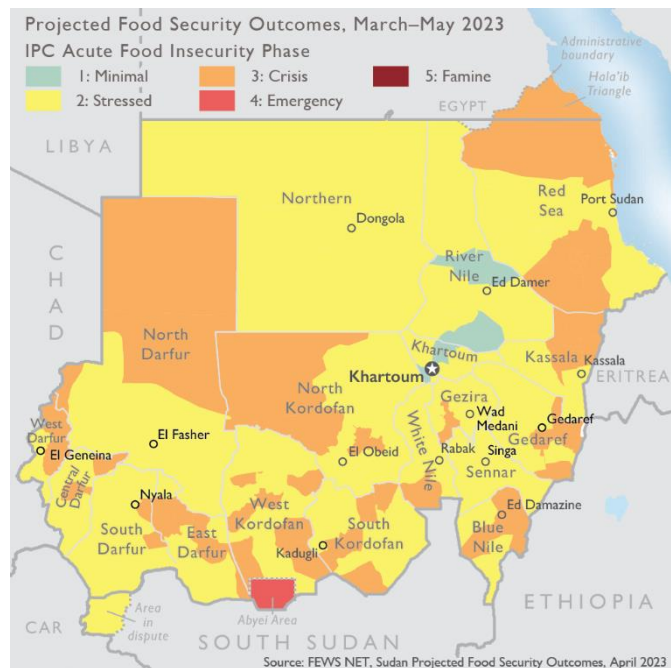
# Sudan – Complex Emergency

APRIL 26, 2023

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- Fighting between the RSF and SAF in Sudan broke out on April 15. The resulting clashes had resulted in at least 459 deaths and injury to more than 4,000 people as of April 24, according to WHO. The conflict has also prompted the displacement of tens of thousands of people throughout the country.
- The ongoing RSF–SAF conflict has caused relief organizations to suspend operations and restricted humanitarian access to populations in need. Additionally, shortages of food, fuel, and safe drinking water have exacerbated humanitarian needs throughout Sudan.
- On April 23, USAID/BHA activated a DART and RMT to coordinate USG response efforts focused on the intensifying conflict in Sudan.



## TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Sudan Response in FY 2023

USAID/BHA<sup>1</sup> \$162,431,301

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 5

**Total \$162,431,301**

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### **RSF–SAF Fighting Causes Hundreds of Deaths, Displaces Thousands**

Fighting between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF)—a paramilitary force—and the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) broke out throughout Sudan on April 15. The conflict had resulted in at least 459 deaths and injury to more than 4,000 people as of April 24, according to USAID/BHA partner the UN World Health Organization (WHO). Although the RSF and SAF have both agreed to several 24-hour humanitarian ceasefires since the outbreak of conflict, neither side has upheld any of the ceasefires and clashes have continued unabated. As of April 24, fighting between the RSF and SAF has been most heavily concentrated in Sudan’s capital city of Khartoum and in Darfur Region.<sup>2</sup>

The conflict has displaced tens of thousands of people throughout the country since April 15, including up to 37,000 people displaced across South Darfur’s Nyala Janoub locality; up to 17,000 people displaced from North Darfur’s El Fasher, Tawila, and Kebkabiya localities; up to 8,000 people displaced in North Kordofan; and up to 4,000 people displaced across Khartoum State, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on April 23. Meanwhile, up to 20,000 people had fled Darfur as of April 20, seeking refuge across the border in Chad, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Displaced people are sheltering outdoors or in makeshift shelters in villages along the Chad–Sudan border and are in urgent need of food, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, UNHCR reports.

Additionally, more than 3,600 people crossed from Sudan to South Sudan and registered with UNHCR between April 17 and 24, according to IOM and UNHCR. However, the number of people that arrived in South Sudan could be significantly higher, as many people who crossed the Sudan–South Sudan border during that time period did not register with the UN agency. On April 22, UNHCR established two reception centers near the Joda border crossing between Sudan’s White Nile State and South Sudan’s Upper Nile State. Other relief organizations committed to supporting the reception centers by addressing priority needs—including food assistance, health care, and nutrition screenings—during a humanitarian coordination meeting on April 22. Additional priority needs identified by IOM and UNHCR include cash assistance and access to telecommunications services to enable individuals to contact relatives currently living in South Sudan. UNHCR and IOM anticipate that the number of arrivals to South Sudan will increase in the coming days.

### **RSF–SAF Conflict Impedes Relief Efforts, Exacerbates Humanitarian Needs**

Five humanitarian aid workers were killed in Sudan between April 15 and 21, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Following the respective deaths of the organizations’ staff members, U.S. Government (USG) partners IOM and the UN World Food Program (WFP) have ceased operations in Sudan. UNHCR has also suspended its operations in Khartoum and North Kordofan and throughout Darfur due to ongoing insecurity. Other relief organizations have also temporarily suspended operations as a result of the ongoing conflict. Additionally, armed actors have raided humanitarian housing compounds, offices, and warehouses around the country, injuring relief workers and looting humanitarian supplies, including office supplies, relief commodities, and vehicles, according to OCHA.

As fighting continues, shortages of food, fuel, and safe drinking water are worsening, particularly in

<sup>2</sup> Darfur Region comprises the following states: Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, and West Darfur. Kordofan Region comprises the following states: North Kordofan, South Kordofan, and West Kordofan.

conflict-affected areas. According to the March 2023 Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Food Assistance Outlook Brief, up to 10 million people in Sudan are projected to face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity between March and September 2023.<sup>3</sup> However, as food prices rise and food becomes more scarce due to the conflict, food security will likely deteriorate further throughout Sudan. The lack of safe drinking water is also exacerbating the risk of waterborne diseases, including cholera, according to OCHA. Fuel shortages and significant fuel price increases are affecting humanitarian operations and have made it difficult for people to flee conflict, according to the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

Meanwhile, internet connectivity throughout Sudan was at 2 percent of ordinary levels as of April 23, according to international media. Limited telecommunications services will significantly impact humanitarian conditions in Sudan, hindering the coordination of assistance for those trapped in Khartoum and other cities. Moreover, inadequate telecommunications may impact USAID/BHA’s ability to communicate with partners and local staff and assist in their evacuation to nearby countries or states.

Health care infrastructure throughout Sudan has deteriorated significantly since the start of the conflict, with 11 attacks on health care facilities recorded since fighting began on April 15, according to WHO. Additionally, WHO reports that the remaining health care facilities in Khartoum and Darfur are nearly non-functional due to staff fatigue and lack of supplies. With USAID/BHA support, WHO is working to maintain the functionality of health care facilities, where possible. On April 22, WHO distributed fuel to power generators at a major hospital in Khartoum.

## **USAID/BHA Activates DART and RMT to Coordinate Response Efforts**

Since the April 15 outbreak of conflict, USAID/BHA has worked with existing partner organizations to assess the impacts of insecurity on active humanitarian programming, determine priority needs of conflict-affected populations, and ensure partner safety and accountability. On April 23, USAID/BHA activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) based in Nairobi, Kenya, and a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to coordinate USG humanitarian response efforts to meet the needs of conflict-affected populations throughout Sudan. DART and RMT staff continue to coordinate with USAID/BHA partners in Sudan to provide life-saving assistance throughout the country.

<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.

### **KEY FIGURES**



**11,300**

MT of food and nutrition assistance distributed by WFP with USAID/BHA support in February

## **U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

### **FOOD SECURITY**

USAID/BHA and the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) support multiple UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to bolster food security and livelihoods throughout Sudan. In partnership with USAID/BHA, WFP provides emergency food assistance to people experiencing acute food insecurity countrywide through cash transfers for food and U.S.-sourced and locally and regionally procured cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil. With USAID/BHA support, WFP assisted approximately 1.1 million people in Sudan with emergency food and nutrition assistance in February. In addition, USAID/BHA delivered approximately 45,000 metric tons (MT) of U.S.-



## 5.6 Million

People who received medical and pharmaceutical supplies across Sudan through USAID/BHA partners UNICEF and WHO in 2022



## 9,700

Children ages five years and younger screened for acute malnutrition at USAID/BHA partner World Relief nutrition centers in February



## 692,000

Refugees and asylum seekers reached with access to safe drinking water in 2022 by State/PRM partner UNHCR

sourced sorghum—procured through the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust—to Sudan in November 2022 to support WFP’s response to critical food shortages in the country through April 2023. USAID/BHA partner the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) also provides agricultural inputs and training for smallholder farmers.

### HEALTH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support IOM, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UNHCR, WHO, and 13 NGOs to provide life-saving health care across Sudan. USAID/BHA partners provide essential medicines, support health facilities, and train implementing partners to support critical health needs, including coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response efforts. In addition, USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners—including UNFPA and UNICEF—support essential health interventions for IDPs, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Sudan.

### NUTRITION

With USAID/BHA and State/PRM support, IOM, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and 14 NGOs prevent, identify, and treat wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—through the implementation of multi-sector integrated intervention approaches, including the provision of nutritional supplements, as well as agriculture, food security, health, and WASH activities. USAID/BHA-supported nutrition programming includes educational activities and malnutrition treatment focused on children and pregnant and lactating women. In March, with USAID/BHA support, UNICEF announced the arrival of more than 65,000 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food—a life-saving nutrition commodity—to treat an estimated 65,000 children ages five years and younger with wasting in 2023.

### WASH

USAID/BHA supports IOM, UNICEF, WHO, and 18 NGOs to provide emergency WASH assistance throughout Sudan. USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners—including UNHCR and UNICEF—assist in preventing and containing communicable disease outbreaks, including dengue and malaria. During Sudan’s annual rainy seasons, usually between May and September, USAID/BHA partners support flood-affected populations with emergency WASH supplies—such as chlorine, hygiene kits, soap, and water containers—to ensure access to safe drinking water. In addition, State/PRM and USAID/BHA partners have improved access to safe drinking water and provided hygiene awareness sessions to conflict-affected populations, as well as other populations in need. With State/PRM support, UNICEF upgraded water infrastructure to a solar-powered water system to benefit an estimated 5,000 individuals, including refugees and their livestock, in South Darfur’s Um Dafoug locality in March.

## 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 SAF, armed opposition groups, militias, and ethnic groups in Abyei Administrative Area, Blue Nile, Darfur Region, and South Kordofan has resulted in increasing food, health, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH needs, which have been compounded by the ongoing economic crisis.
- In April 2019, a civilian uprising grew out of protests against fuel shortages, high prices for bread, and other economic issues. On April 11, 2019, 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. However, following political unrest, the military took over the government on October 25, 2021, arresting civilian leadership. On November 21, Hamdok was reinstated as Prime Minister under a power-sharing agreement with SAF military leader Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, but thereafter resigned on January 2, 2022. The October 25 military takeover sparked widespread protests across the country. Military leaders and representatives of civilian pro-democracy parties subsequently signed a preliminary agreement to establish a two-year transitional civilian government on December 5, 2022.
- On October 6, 2022, U.S. Ambassador John T. Godfrey reissued a declaration of humanitarian need in Sudan for FY 2023. The U.S. Mission in Sudan has issued disaster declarations or declarations of humanitarian need due to the complex emergency in Sudan annually since 1987.
- The UN estimates that 15.8 million people will require humanitarian assistance in Sudan in 2023. Access restrictions, bureaucratic impediments, insecurity, and limited funding hinder relief agencies' ability to respond to humanitarian and recovery needs in Sudan. Despite humanitarian access improvements since 2016, particularly in Jabal Marrah, relief agencies continue to face a challenging operational environment in Sudan.
- Fighting between RSF and SAF elements across Sudan began on April 15, 2023, significantly escalating the humanitarian crisis in the country. On April 23, USAID/BHA activated a DART and RMT to coordinate the USG response to escalating needs.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination, Information, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
UN Development Program (UNDP)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$8,000,000
UN Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS)	HCIMA	Central Darfur, East Darfur, Gedaref, Khartoum, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur, West Kordofan, White Nile	\$600,000

UNFPA	Health, Protection	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur	\$3,000,000
	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$7,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$107,994,174
	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$32,696,000
	Program Support		\$141,127
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$162,431,301</b>

<sup>3</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect funding that has been committed or obligated as of April 26, 2023.

## 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)