



# **Sudan –** Complex Emergency

JUNE 17, 2023

#### SITUATION AT A GLANCE

866

Deaths Caused by Ongoing RSF-SAF Conflict

GoS - June 6, 2023

**24.7** MILLION

Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance

UN - May 2023

1.7

People Internally Displaced Since April 15, 2023

IOM - June 14, 2023

361,000

Sudanese Refugees and Asylum Seekers Displaced Since April 15, 2023

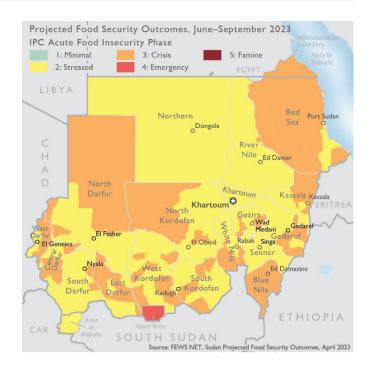
UNHCR - June 14, 2023

113,000

Refugee Returnees Displaced Since April 15, 2023

UNHCR - June 14, 2023

- Renewed fighting between RSF and SAF forces began on June 11 following a 24-hour ceasefire on June 10 that largely held, which enabled humanitarian actors to deliver assistance across Sudan, according to international media.
- The conflict had prompted more than 544,000 cross-border movements as of June 16, increasing needs in neighboring countries, IOM and UNHCR report. USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners continue to provide assistance to people fleeing Sudan.
- Ongoing fighting has disrupted Sudan's May-to-October planting season, which is likely to increase acute food insecurity across the country, according to FEWS NET and SCF.



TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$245,213,624
For the Sudan Response in FY 2023	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$54,330,000
For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6	Total	\$299,543,624

USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

#### **KEY DEVELOPMENTS**

## Intense Clashes Resume After Broadly Successful 24-Hour Ceasefire

On June 9, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and U.S. Government (USG), co-facilitators of negotiations in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, between representatives of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF)—a paramilitary force—and the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), announced that the two sides had agreed to a 24-hour ceasefire beginning at 6:00 a.m. local time on June 10, enabling humanitarian access and potentially serving as a first step towards restarting more comprehensive talks. The ceasefire largely held across Sudan, resulting in the calmest day since the conflict began on April 15 and enabling humanitarian organizations to deliver relief commodities, according to international media. Between May 24 and June 11, at least 270 trucks delivered relief supplies sufficient to meet the health, nutrition, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs of approximately 2 million people to Blue Nile, Gedaref, Gezira, Khartoum, Northern, River Nile, and Sennar states, the UN reports. Despite this relative success, heavy fighting resumed in Sudan's capital of Khartoum and parts of Darfur and Kordofan regions within minutes of the ceasefire's conclusion on June 11, according to international media.<sup>3</sup> In Khartoum, the SAF launched airstrikes against RSF bases, resulting in at least 18 civilian deaths and prompting the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) to temporarily suspend its activities.

The conflict in Sudan continues to generate casualties and widespread needs among civilians, with the worst impacts recorded in Khartoum, Darfur, and Kordofan. As of June 6, the Government of Sudan (GoS) reported the deaths of at least 866 individuals and injury to more than 6,000 others since April 15, but relief actors note that these figures likely underestimate the total number of casualties. In West Darfur, the site of the heaviest fighting outside of the Khartoum area, the conflict has become increasingly intercommunal as Arab tribes with ties to the RSF intensify attacks against civilian populations, targeting people based on ethnicity, according to international media. In West Darfur's El Geneina city, international media—citing local activists—report that clashes resulted in at least 1,100 deaths and injury to approximately 3,000 others between late April and June 13. Most of the city is completely deserted as of mid-June due to continued attacks against civilians, as well as the lack of electricity, medical care, and safe drinking water, the UN reports. However, several wounded individuals remain trapped in El Geneina as of early June, unable to evacuate the city or access life-saving treatment, according to the international non-governmental organization (INGO) Médecins Sans Frontières.

Meanwhile, North Kordofan's El Obeid city, located along one of the major transportation routes into Darfur, remains under siege by RSF forces, who have occupied the roads leading into the city and are engaging in looting and intimidation of civilians, the UN reports. Compounding these deteriorating security conditions, armed criminal groups have also engaged in widespread looting in the area. In a June 13 statement, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General Volker Perthes warned that targeted attacks on civilians in Darfur, if verified, may amount to crimes against humanity.

Across Sudan, reports of gender-based violence (GBV) and other protection risks have increased. Since mid-April, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has received reports of more than 10 GBV incidents targeting nearly 40 women and girls, which likely underestimates the scale of violence. GBV cases have been difficult to track due to underreporting and widespread telecommunication challenges, media reports. In response, USG partner the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) trained 175 GBV support actors in conflict-affected areas from April 15 to May 22 on emergency GBV response, psychosocial support, and referrals to ensure survivors can access services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</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.

# Sudan Conflict Continues to Drive Displacement to Neighboring Countries

The conflict has prompted more than 544,000 cross-border movements—of Sudanese refugees, refugee returnees, and foreign nationals—from Sudan to neighboring countries as of June 16, a 12 percent increase compared to June 6, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR. The UN agencies report Egypt has received the most arrivals from Sudan with approximately 215,000 people, followed by Chad with 150,000 arrivals, South Sudan with 118,000 individuals, Ethiopia with 46,000 people, and Central African Republic (CAR) with 15,200 arrivals, as of June 16. Disruptions to transportation systems, scarcity of fuel, and surges in the price of goods continue to challenge those fleeing to neighboring countries. Despite these challenges, USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners continue to provide life-saving assistance to conflict-affected populations in Sudan and neighboring countries.

At the border of Sudan and Chad, humanitarian conditions continued to worsen in early June, according to local media. Although information is scarce due to telecommunications outages, the GoS stated on June 11 that the humanitarian situation in West Darfur is catastrophic, prompting many conflict-affected households to flee to Chad. Due to intensified fighting in West Darfur, the GoS has agreed to allow a humanitarian corridor between Chad's Abéché city and El Geneina and requested that UN agencies secure an overland travel route between the two cities. In addition, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) reports nearly 270 unaccompanied children had been identified among the refugee population in Chad as of June 13, though total figures are likely higher. Approximately 60 percent of new arrivals from Sudan are younger than 18 years of age, and unaccompanied minors are extremely vulnerable due to protection and GBV risks. To support new arrivals in Chad, State/PRM partner UNHCR and its support organizations are providing core relief items and hot meals, along with health, shelter, and WASH assistance. With the ongoing June-to-October rainy season, which has already impeded access to remote areas due to flooding of roads, UNHCR is also working with the Government of Chad to facilitate the voluntary relocation of new arrivals from the border to more accessible existing sites in Chad's interior.

At the Egypt-Sudan border, many Sudanese sheltering in Northern State's Wadi Halfa city continue to face delays in entering Egypt, UNHCR reports. On June 5, Sudanese authorities stopped accepting parents' passports with child endorsements, which had enabled the entry of children into Egypt. As of June 10, the Government of Egypt is also now requiring visas for all Sudanese individuals entering the country, reversing the longstanding exemption for children, older people, and women that initially remained in place when the conflict began in mid-April, according to local media. Egyptian authorities have justified this change in policy by citing unlawful activities carried out by Sudanese armed groups, including the issuance of fraudulent visas. Compounding the situation, an increasing number of Sudanese individuals who had previously entered Egypt are beginning to return to Sudan via Wadi Halfa after they were reportedly unable to fund their continued stay, according to UNHCR. Returnees cite overcrowding, some incidences of host community rejection, and rising economic and housing costs, as reasons for their return. The SRCS in Wadi Halfa is coordinating with the Egyptian Red Crescent to assist these returnees with food and shelter for three days while they arrange further movement into Sudan. In addition to visa issues in Egypt, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has stopped issuing tourist visas to Sudanese people as of June 12, according to international media. While the intervention of the Sudanese Embassy in the UAE allowed entry for more than 130 Sudanese who were stranded en route to the UAE, there are still additional stranded civilians waiting to be allowed entry into the country.

In South Sudan, of the more than 118,000 new arrivals—92 percent of whom are South Sudanese returnees—nearly 76 percent crossed through Upper Nile State's Joda and Renk towns, along the border with Sudan's White Nile State. From Renk, new arrivals typically continue to the Paloich airport,

approximately 100 miles south of the town, where South Sudan's Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (RTGoNU) has been facilitating the movement of returnees to their places of origin, UNHCR reports. Between June 5 and 6, the RTGoNU relocated more than 200 returnees from Paloich to the country's capital city of Juba and flew more than 300 returnees to Western Bahr el Ghazal State's Wau city. USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners continue to provide multi-sector assistance at border points between Sudan and South Sudan.

### Conflict Disrupts Crop Production, Fueling Worsening Food Insecurity in Sudan

Ongoing conflict has severely disrupted Sudan's planting season, which typically begins in May, and is likely to increase food needs across the country, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) and Save the Children Federation (SCF). FEWS NET projects up to 8 million people, approximately 20 percent of Sudan's population, may face Crisis—IPC 3—or worse levels of acute food insecurity by November if the conflict continues, given negative impacts on crop production and overall harvests.4 SCF also reports more than 9 million Sudanese children—nearly one-half of all children in the country—are projected to face severe food shortages in the coming months, representing an increase of approximately 1.7 million children facing hunger since April, when 7.6 million were already experiencing food shortages. This 22 percent increase in need is a direct result of the ongoing conflict disrupting crop production, according to SCF. Conflict has forced thousands of farmers off their land, while the collapse of the banking system has drastically reduced the availability of loans, limiting farmers' ability to plant crops. Moreover, many of the agricultural companies that sell fertilizer and pesticides have suspended operations since the conflict began, while farmers continue to face challenges operating agricultural equipment due to lack of fuel countrywide. The disruption of the May-to-October planting season may drive acute food insecurity through at least early 2024, and further conflict risks exacerbating humanitarian conditions.

#### **KEY FIGURES**



People reached with food and nutrition assistance through

USAID/BHA partner WFP between May I and June 6

#### U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

#### **FOOD SECURITY**

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support multiple UN agencies and NGOs to bolster food security and livelihoods throughout Sudan. In partnership with USAID/BHA, the UN World Food Program (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—prior to the outbreak of conflict—and more than 750,000 people between May I and June 6. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is providing agricultural inputs and training for smallholder farmers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</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 I—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.



Children and their caregivers reached with emergency health supplies in Sudan through USAID/BHA partner UNICEF as of June 8



People receiving nutrition assistance from USAID/BHA partner WFP between May I and June 6



People reached with safe drinking water across Sudan as of June 8 through USAID/BHA partner UNICEF

#### **HEALTH**

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR, the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and 14 additional partner organizations 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. In addition, USG partners—including UNFPA and UNICEF—support essential health interventions for internally displaced persons, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Sudan. Notably, through USAID/BHA funding, UNFPA supported more than 3,000 safe births at 10 health facilities in Khartoum between May 15 and June 12.

#### **NUTRITION**

With USAID/BHA and State/PRM support, IOM, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and I5 additional partner organizations 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. As of early June, more than 250 outpatient therapeutic programs were active across eight states to treat severe acute malnutrition in children under five years of age. USAID/BHA-supported nutrition programming includes educational activities and malnutrition treatment focused on children and pregnant and lactating women.

#### **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, USG partners have provided hygiene awareness sessions to conflict-affected populations, as well as other populations in need.

#### **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, and South
  Kordofan has resulted in increased 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 (DHN) in Sudan for FY 2023. The U.S. Mission in Sudan has issued disaster declarations or DHNs due to the complex emergency in Sudan annually since 1987.
- 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 Nairobi, Kenya-based Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) and Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to coordinate the USG response to escalating needs.
- The UN estimates that 24.7 million people require humanitarian assistance in Sudan in 2023, an increase
  from 15.8 million estimated to be in need prior to the RSF-SAF conflict. 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, relief agencies continue
  to face a challenging operational environment in Sudan, compounded by the April 2023 outbreak of
  conflict.

#### **USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>5,6</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT		
FUNDING IN SUDAN FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE					
	USAID/BHA				
IOM	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$25,000,000		
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination, Information, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$3,000,000		
UN Development Program (UNDP)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$23,000,000		
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		
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$7,000,000		
	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 \$373,450

Implementing Partners UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance  Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide  Countrywide	\$46,800,000
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$1,730,000

# USG REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>5,7</sup>

FUNDING IN CAR FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE					
USAID/BHA					
WFP	Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,000,000		
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$4,000,000		
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDAN CRIS	SIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN CA	AR IN FY 2023	\$8,000,000		
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN CAR IN FY 2023			\$8,000,000		
FUNDING IN CHAD FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE					
	USAID/BHA				
WFP	Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,500,000		
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$550,000		
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN CHAD IN FY 2023			\$3,050,000		
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE	SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN	CHAD IN FY 2023	\$3,050,000		
	FUNDING IN EGYPT FOR THE	SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE			
	USAID/	вна			
WFP	Food Assistance	Aswan	\$6,000,000		
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDAN CRIS	SIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN EC	GYPT IN FY 2023	\$6,000,000		
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE	TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN EGYPT IN FY 2023		\$6,000,000		
FUN	IDING IN SOUTH SUDAN FOR	THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE			
	USAID/	вна			
IOM	HCIMA, Health, Logistics, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Abyei Administrative Area, Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Eastern Nile, Greater Pibor Administrative Area, Jonglei, Lakes, Lol, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal	\$4,000,000		
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection	Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Lakes, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, Unity, Upper Nile, Warrap, Western Bahr el Ghazal, Western Equatoria	\$21,500,000		
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDAN CRIS	SIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN SC	OUTH SUDAN IN FY 2023	\$25,500,000		
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE	SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN	SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2023	\$25,500,000		
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDAN CRIS	SIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN FY	7 2023	\$245,213,624		
TOTAL STATE/PRM SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN FY 2023		\$54,330,000			
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE	SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN	FY 2023	\$299,543,624		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</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 June 16, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>7</sup> USAID/BHA funding in CAR, Chad, and South Sudan supports programming to address preexisting needs in the countries, as well as new needs caused by the ongoing crisis in Sudan. Additionally, USAID/BHA funding for CAR, Chad, and South Sudan benefiting displaced people from Sudan is also reported in the USG CAR Fact Sheet, USAID/BHA Chad Assistance Overview, and USG South Sudan Fact Sheet, respectively.

#### **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
  - o 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