



# **Sudan –** Complex Emergency

**AUGUST 18, 2023** 

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

5,006

Deaths Caused by Ongoing Conflict in Sudan Since April 15

ACLED - August 4, 2023

**24.7** 

Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance

UN - May 2023

3.4

People Internally Displaced Since April 15, 2023

IOM - August 9, 2023

709,478

Sudanese Refugees and Asylum Seekers Displaced Since April 15, 2023

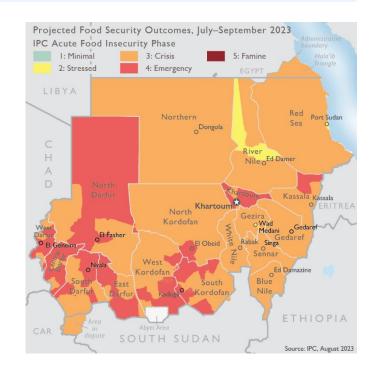
UNHCR - August 15, 2023

208,323

Refugee Returnees Displaced Since April 15, 2023

UNHCR - August 15, 2023

- Clashes between the RSF and SAF have displaced more than 4.3 million people, including 3.4 million people within Sudan and nearly 918,000 people to neighboring countries, exacerbating humanitarian needs across the region.
- Continued armed conflict across Sudan has exposed approximately 4.3 million civilians to increased protection risks, including GBV.
- RSF announced the establishment of its Sudan Agency for Relief and Humanitarian Operations (SARHO) on August 13, an entity reportedly intended to oversee relief operations in RSF-controlled areas.
- WFP's first cross-border convoy from eastern Chad into West Darfur delivered in-kind food to approximately 15,400 people in early August.



TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA <sup>I</sup>	\$355,500,358
For the Sudan Response in FY 2023	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$191,640,000
For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 5	Total	\$547,140,358

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**

# RSF-SAF Conflict Displaces More Than 4.3 Million People Since April 15

Approximately four months since clashes between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) and the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) began, the conflict has displaced more than 4.3 million individuals within and from Sudan, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Of these, an estimated 3.4 million people remained internally displaced across Sudan as of August 9, the majority of whom—nearly 75 percent—fled fighting in Khartoum State, IOM reports. The conflict and subsequent displacement have exacerbated humanitarian needs countrywide, with food reported as the highest priority need in most states, according to key informant interviews conducted by IOM. Notably, increased fighting between the RSF and SAF on August 11 in South Darfur State's capital city of Nyala resulted in at least 25 deaths and the displacement of an estimated 4,000 households as of August 13, IOM reports. More than 60 percent of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in South Darfur are sheltering with host communities, and more than 35 percent have entered IDP camps. While IDPs in South Darfur report heightened needs for relief items, humanitarian actors were unable to access the area as of August 13, according to IOM.

The conflict in Sudan had also prompted nearly 918,000 asylum seekers, refugees, and refugee returnees—defined as refugees returning to their countries of origin—to cross into neighboring countries as of August 15, UNHCR reports. Chad continues to host the largest number of externally displaced persons with an estimated 40 percent of the population displaced outside of Sudan, followed by Egypt, South Sudan, Ethiopia, and the Central African Republic (CAR). Relief organizations—including USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners—are providing multi-sector humanitarian assistance in Sudan and the surrounding countries. In collaboration with a local organization, State/PRM partner UNHCR provided hot meals to more than 127,000 Sudanese refugees in Chad during relocation from various arrival sites to camps in eastern areas of the country. In addition, UNHCR and health partners have established more than 15 mobile clinics that supported more than 42,000 medical consultations, an estimated 26,000 screenings for child malnutrition, and birth assistance to approximately 300 women in Chad who fled the Sudan conflict since April 15.

# Clashes Exacerbate Health and Protection Risks Countrywide

Persistent armed conflict across Sudan continues to expose civilians to severe health and protection risks and violations, resulting in approximately 4.2 million people—including refugees within Sudan—facing increased threats of gender-based violence (GBV), according to the UN. Within the at-risk population, an estimated 2.6 million women and girls of reproductive age urgently require humanitarian assistance, as sustained violence disrupts health and protection services. The Government of Sudan's Combating Violence Against Women Unit continues to document reports of conflict-related sexual violence and other forms of GBV across the country. Between April 15 and July 20, the unit recorded nearly 110 cases of GBV across three states, including nearly 60 cases in Khartoum; however, this figure likely underrepresents the extent of GBV incidents across Sudan due to access constraints, fear of reporting, and social stigma.

Additionally, continued clashes in Khartoum during August have caused civilian casualties, damaged infrastructure, and worsened public health conditions. On August 7, SAF launched air strikes against RSF positions in Khartoum State's Omdurman city, prompting a sharp escalation of armed conflict between the warring parties—described as the most intense fighting since April 15 by international media—for several days. In addition to displacing an unconfirmed number of civilians from the city, the renewed fighting resulted in up to 33 deaths and obstructed access to graveyards, delaying safe burial of the

bodies. While the management of deceased bodies has been a persistent concern in Sudan prior to the outbreak of conflict in April, recent prolonged power outages have reportedly disrupted refrigeration systems at the city's mortuary facilities, exacerbating the risk of disease outbreaks as bodies left in the streets and morgues begin to decompose in high temperatures, according to an August 8 statement by Save the Children Federation. The nongovernmental organization (NGO) warned that the combined effects of additional corpses, insufficient water availability or treatment facilities, and nonfunctional hygiene and sanitation services may increase the city's vulnerability to a cholera outbreak. With nearly 80 percent of Khartoum's main hospitals nonfunctional, and the remaining only partially operational, health actors will likely face immense challenges controlling and responding to a widespread disease outbreak in the city, relief actors report.

# RSF Establishes Agency to Oversee Aid Operations in RSF-Controlled Areas

On August 13, RSF General Mohamed Hamdan 'Hemedti' Dagalo announced the establishment of SARHO, an agency reportedly intended to streamline and facilitate effective humanitarian operations in RSF-controlled territories, especially Khartoum State and the Darfur and Kordofan regions. In a social media post, Hemedti stated that SARHO will assume authority for issuing the required licenses and permits to international and national humanitarian organizations seeking to operate in areas under RSF control, indicating relief actors will be required to obtain RSF authorization to access these areas of the country. Additionally, the post states that SARHO will prioritize human rights and social protection, with an emphasis on women, children, older people, and persons with disabilities. In contrast, an August 17 Human Rights Watch report indicated that uniformed RSF personnel perpetrated acts of GBV, including sexual violence, against several dozen women and girls fleeing West Darfur in recent weeks. Relief organizations are still working to understand how the new agency and related stipulations will affect their operations. The USG continues to monitor the operating environment carefully and advocate for independent, unimpeded access to conflict-affected communities across Sudan.

#### WFP Delivers Life-Saving Food Assistance From Eastern Chad to Darfur

A UN World Food Program (WFP) convoy—comprising five trucks—delivered 125 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food assistance to West Darfur from eastern Chad between August 3 and 5, representing the USG partner's first cross-border delivery to Darfur region since the eruption of RSF–SAF conflict on April 15. The convoy delivered a one-month ration of food to approximately 15,400 people in West Darfur's Adikong, Jarabi, and Skukri villages, bringing the total number of people reached with WFP distributions since the UN agency resumed activities in May to approximately 1.6 million people.

# Flooding Affects 13,500 People in North Darfur, Northern, and White Nile

Heavy rains and subsequent flooding in North Darfur, Northern, and White Nile states have affected approximately 13,500 people in early August, the UN reports. Heavy rains between August 5 and 8 in North Darfur's El Fasher city destroyed the houses of an estimated 10,000 people in As Salam and Zamzam IDP camps, according to IOM. The rains also destroyed approximately 360 latrines and damaged 400 others, leading to open defecation and increased cases of diarrhea among IDPs, the UN reports. In White Nile, heavy rains in Aj Jabalain locality on August 1 resulted in the deaths of three people and damaged or destroyed approximately 400 houses, affecting an estimated 2,000 people, the UN reports. In Northern, severe rains destroyed more than 450 homes in early August, national media reports. Relief actors raised concern that continued severe weather during Sudan's June-to-September rainy season could worsen displacement and heighten the risks of malnutrition and vector-borne and

<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.

#### **KEY FIGURES**

# L 6 Million

People reached with WFP food assistance between its resumption of activities in May and early August



Of emergency health supplies delivered by USG partner WHO



Of specialized nutrition commodities—sufficient to treat nearly 45,000 children—distributed by USG partner UNICEF since April 15



Women and girls reached with dignity kits and information about GBV survivor care and services by USG partner UNFPA

# **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, 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. The UN agency reached an estimated 1.6 million people across Sudan between its resumption of activities in early May and early August with support from USAID/BHA and other donors.

#### **HEALTH**

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support IOM, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNHCR, the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and additional NGO partners to provide lifesaving 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 IDPs, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Sudan.

#### **NUTRITION**

With USAID/BHA and State/PRM support, IOM, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and several NGO partners prevent, identify, and treat acute malnutrition through multi-sector integrated interventions, including the provision of nutritional supplements, as well as agriculture, food security, health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) activities. As of early July, nearly 76 percent of outpatient therapeutic programs were active across Sudan 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.

#### **PROTECTION**

USG partners—including UNFPA, UNICEF, and several NGOs—provide multi-sector protection assistance to promote the dignity and safety of conflict-affected and vulnerable people in Sudan. Between April 15 and August 11, UNFPA provided seven health facilities and hospitals in two states with medical supplies sufficient to respond to more than 5,100 sexual and reproductive health emergencies. Additionally, UNFPA reached nearly 12,000 girls and women across eight states with life-saving dignity kits and information about GBV services.



People in Sudan provided safe drinking water by UNICEF between April 15 and July 15

#### **WASH**

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO, and other NGOs to provide emergency WASH assistance in Sudan. With USAID/BHA and other donor support, UNICEF reached an estimated 2 million people in Sudan with safe drinking water from April 15 to July 15. USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners—including UNHCR and UNICEF—also assist in preventing and containing disease outbreaks, including dengue and malaria. During Sudan's annual rainy season, USAID/BHA partners support flood-affected populations with emergency WASH supplies—such as chlorine for water purification, hygiene kits, and water containers—to ensure access to safe drinking water.

#### **CONTEXT IN BRIEF**

- Fighting between RSF elements and the SAF began on April 15, 2023, significantly escalating the
  humanitarian crisis in Sudan. 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.
- 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.
- In April 2019, a civilian uprising grew out of protests against fuel shortages, high bread prices, 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 transitional 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.

# USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023 1,2

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUN
FU	JNDING IN SUDAN FOR THE	SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE	
	USAID/E	ВНА	
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination, Information, and Assessments (HCIMA), Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$25,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$9,000,00
UN Development Program (UNDP)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$23,000,00
UN Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$600,000
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Blue Nile, Central Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur	\$3,000,00
	Health, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$15,300,00
UNICEF	Nutrition–U.S. In-Kind Specialized Nutrition Products	Countrywide	\$9,500,00
	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$36,000,00
	Food Assistance–U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$147,951,91
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$32,696,00
	Program Support		\$402,44
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN SUDAN IN FY 2023		\$302,450,35	
	STATE/	PRM	
Implementing Partners	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$11,100,00
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$54,100,00
UNICEF	Health, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$12,000,00
UNFPA	Health, Protection	Countrywide	\$5,400,00
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$1,730,00
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN	SUDAN IN FY 2023		\$84,330,00

# USG REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023 1,2,3

	FUNDING IN CAR FOR TH	E SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE		
	USAII	D/BHA		
WFP	Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,000,000	
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$4,000,000	
TOTAL USAID/BHA SU	TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN CAR IN FY 2023			
	STATE/PRM			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$300,000	
UNICEF	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,300,000	
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,300,000	
UNFPA	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$200,000	
TOTAL STATE/PRM SU	DAN CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN	CAR IN FY 2023	\$6,100,000	
TOTAL USG FUNDING	TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN CAR IN FY 2023 \$14,10			
FUNDING IN CHAD FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE				

	USAID/	ВНА	
WFP	Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$550,000
WFP	Food Assistance, Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$14,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDA	N CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN CI	HAD IN FY 2023	\$17,050,000
	STATE/	PRM	
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,400,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$33,300,000
UNFPA	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$400,000
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$2,315,000
UNICEF	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM SUDA	N CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN CI	HAD IN FY 2023	\$38,915,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FO	R THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN	CHAD IN FY 2023	\$55,965,000
	FUNDING IN EGYPT FOR THE	SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE	
	USAID/	вна	
WFP	Food Assistance	Aswan	\$6,000,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDA	N CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN EC	SYPT IN FY 2023	\$6,000,000
	STATE/	PRM	
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$4,000,000
UNICEF	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$5,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM SUDA	N CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN EG	GYPT IN FY 2023	\$12,000,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FO	R THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN	EGYPT IN FY 2023	\$18,000,000
	FUNDING IN ETHIOPIA FOR TH	HE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE	
	STATE/	PRM	
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,600,000
UNICEF	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,600,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$6,400,000
UNFPA	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$600,000
	N CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN ET	THIOPIA IN FY 2023	\$10,200,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FO	R THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN	ETHIOPIA IN FY 2023	\$10,200,000
	FUNDING IN SOUTH SUDAN FOR	THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE	
	USAID/		
	Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice, HCIMA,	_	
Implementing Partners	Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), Protection, Shelter, WASH	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
IOM	HCIMA, Health, Logistics, Health, MPCA, Protection, Shelter, WASH	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection	Countrywide	\$2,500,000
WFP	Food Assistance, Logistics, Nutrition,	Countrywide	\$11,500,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDA	N CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN SO	OUTH SUDAN IN FY 2023	\$22,000,000
	STATE/	PRM	
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,800,000

UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$34,100,000
UNFPA	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$500,000
WFP	Logistics Support	Countrywide	\$1,295,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM SUDAN	CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN	SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2023	\$39,995,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR	THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE I	N SOUTH SUDAN IN FY 2023	\$61,995,000
REGIONAL FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE			
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Multi-Sector Assistance	Regionwide	\$100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM REGION	IAL FUNDING FOR SUDAN CRIS	S RESPONSE IN FY 2023	\$100,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR	REGIONAL FUNDING FOR THE	SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023	\$100,000

TOTAL USAID/BHA SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN FY 2023	\$355,500,358
TOTAL STATE/PRM SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE FUNDING IN FY 2023	\$191,640,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2023	\$547,140,358

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 August 18, 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.
- 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</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 and State/PRM 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.