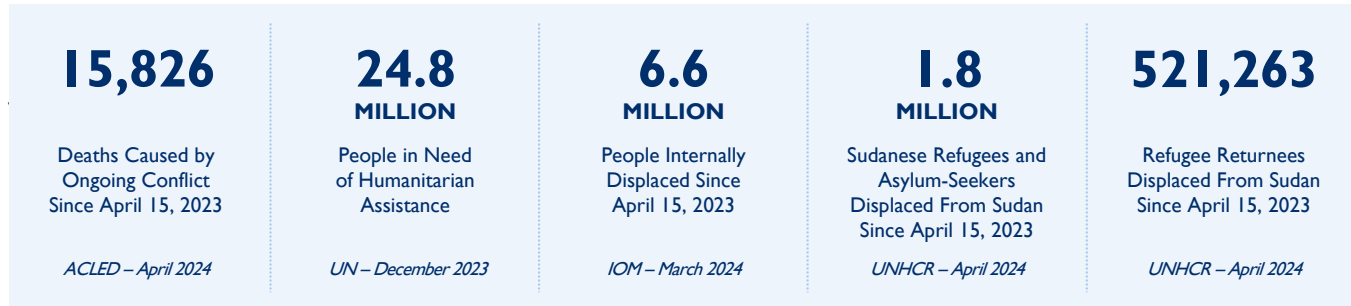


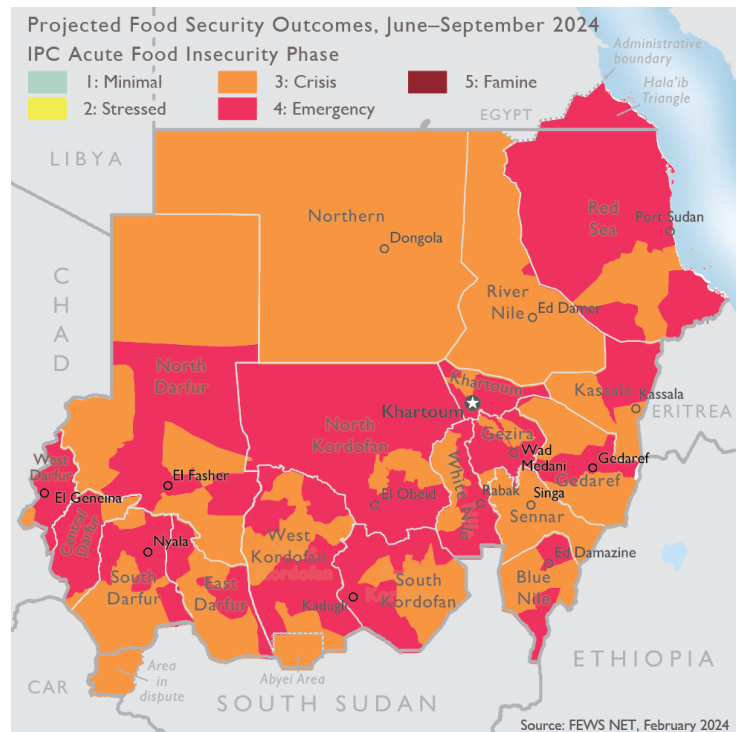
# Sudan – Complex Emergency

APRIL 16, 2024

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- One year of conflict between the SAF and RSF has disproportionately impacted civilians. To mitigate deteriorating food security and nutrition conditions, the UN launched a Famine Prevention Plan on April 12, intended to support 7.6 million people in Sudan over the next six months.
- USAID/BHA partner WFP delivered food assistance to food-insecure populations in Central and West Darfur states in March, the first time the UN has been able to access the region since the GoS restricted humanitarian movements from the Adre border crossing in Chad in February.
- USAID/BHA announced \$100 million in additional funding, bringing the total USG support for humanitarian assistance in Sudan and neighboring countries to more than \$1 billion since the war began in April 2023.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	\$100,017,462
For the Sudan Response in FY 2024	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	\$47,470,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$147,487,462</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

<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

### **Civilians Disproportionately Impacted as Conflict in Sudan Enters its Second Year**

Conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has disproportionately impacted civilians since the conflict began one year ago, resulting in 15,826 deaths and marking the largest current displacement crisis globally with more than 8.4 million people displaced internally and across international borders. The fighting has also resulted in extensive protection violations against civilians, including detention, forced recruitment of children by armed groups, killings, and sexual violence, according to a February report from Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). Both the RSF and SAF have conducted indiscriminate attacks against civilian populations and infrastructure, using heavy weaponry in densely populated areas—including in sites sheltering internally displaced persons (IDPs)—that have resulted in civilian deaths, the destruction of civilian infrastructure, and widespread displacement. Furthermore, access impediments imposed by parties to the conflict, such as the SAF-aligned Government of Sudan (GoS) prohibiting cross-border operations from Chad in February and government and military authorities' denial of cross-line movement requests, as well as insecurity due to ongoing hostilities continue to hamper humanitarian assistance delivery across Sudan. While access impediments remain the foremost constraint to reaching communities in need in Sudan, relief actors have also called for donors to urgently increase funding to enable partners to scale up the humanitarian response in Sudan. Prior to the April 15 International Humanitarian Conference on Sudan in Paris, France, the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan for Sudan, which requires \$2.7 billion to support 14.7 million people, was only 6 percent funded as of April 14, according to the UN. Meanwhile, the Regional Refugee Response Plan, which requires \$1.4 billion to support 2.7 million people in five neighboring countries, was only 7 percent funded as of April 14.

### **USAID Announces Additional \$100 Million in Humanitarian Assistance for Sudan**

Deputy Administrator (DA) for USAID Isobel Coleman announced more than \$100 million in additional humanitarian assistance funding for the emergency response in Sudan during the International Humanitarian Conference on Sudan in Paris, France on April 15, one year after fighting between the SAF and RSF in Sudan commenced. The additional funding aims to bolster existing USAID/BHA partners providing emergency food, health, nutrition, shelter, and water, hygiene, and sanitation (WASH) assistance. The U.S. Government (USG) remains the largest donor of humanitarian assistance to the Sudan humanitarian response; DA Coleman's announcement, in conjunction with State/PRM Assistant Secretary Julieta Valls Noyes' announcement on March 20 of more than \$47 million, brings the total USG funding for humanitarian assistance in Sudan and neighboring countries to more than \$1 billion since the outbreak of the war in April 2023.

During the Conference on Sudan, DA Coleman, joined by U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan Tom Perriello, called on parties to the conflict to adhere to international humanitarian and human rights law by ensuring the protection of civilians and the safety of humanitarian aid workers, particularly for Sudanese aid workers; cease looting humanitarian supplies; and remove obstacles for cross-line and cross-border delivery of humanitarian assistance. DA Coleman also called on the international community to increase high-level advocacy efforts to enable unhindered humanitarian access and achieve an immediate ceasefire between the warring parties.

## UN Launches Famine Prevention Plan for Sudan Amid Deteriorating Food Security and Nutrition Conditions

The UN launched its Famine Prevention Plan on April 12—intended to target 7.6 million people in 147 priority localities with integrated responses led by the Food Security, Health, Nutrition, and WASH Clusters over six months—to mitigate deteriorating acute food security and nutrition conditions in Sudan, which, due to the ongoing conflict, are expected to worsen significantly in the coming months.<sup>3</sup> The UN acknowledges that implementation of the plan depends on the ability of humanitarian actors to access hard-to-reach areas and consistently deliver the necessary quantity and quality of assistance in a timely manner, requiring ongoing engagement with the two main parties to the conflict and other armed groups.

Relief actors and food security experts have raised alarm over rapidly deteriorating acute food security and nutrition conditions in Sudan. The Famine Early Warning Network System (FEWS NET) assessed in March that if armed parties to the conflict further isolate areas, prevent the flow of food, or otherwise restrict population movement in search of food or income, Famine could emerge in parts of West Darfur, Khartoum, and areas of the Darfur region with high concentrations of protracted and often secondarily displaced persons.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, the Sudan Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Technical Working Group issued an alert on March 29 warning of deteriorating food security and nutrition conditions in Khartoum and Gezira states, as well as the Darfur and Kordofan regions, should hostilities between armed factions in central, southern, and western part of Sudan continue to intensify and limit access to humanitarian assistance.<sup>5</sup> While the IPC has been unable to conduct a full updated analysis since December as insecurity and connectivity challenges have hindered data collection in parts of Sudan, the IPC Technical Working Group aims to produce an updated analysis by May, which could lead to a more formal “famine likely” warning, according to the UN.<sup>6</sup>

Insecurity continues to physically limit households’ access to fields in conflict-affected areas, while conflict-related trade disruptions have constrained production, decreased imports, and increased prices of food items, all contributing to food scarcity in Sudan. Notably, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization estimates Sudan’s 2024 cereal production to be nearly 50 percent below 2023 output, with conflict-affected areas in the Darfur and Kordofan regions experiencing the greatest reductions in cereal production. Meanwhile, approximately 4.8 million people are estimated to be acutely malnourished in Sudan as of March 2024, including more than 3.6 million children under five years of age and 1.2 million pregnant and lactating women, reflecting a 22 percent increase compared to the beginning of 2023, according to the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF). In addition, funding shortfalls that prompted relief actors to reduce food rations for refugees in Sudan by 50 percent since January 2024 have increased food insecurity for refugees in Sudan, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). With alarming levels of acute malnutrition and food insecurity inside Sudan, those fleeing Sudan are increasingly likely to arrive in neighboring countries in a poor nutritional state.

<sup>3</sup> The respective coordinating bodies for humanitarian food security, health, nutrition, and WASH activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

<sup>4</sup> Darfur region comprises the following states: Central Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, and West Darfur.

<sup>5</sup> Kordofan region comprises the following states: North Kordofan, South Kordofan, and West Kordofan.

<sup>6</sup> The 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. IPC Phase 5 is referred to as “Catastrophe” when classifying a household and “Famine” when classifying an area. Famine conditions occur when at least 20 percent of the population in a given area face an extreme lack of food; the Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence, measured by weight-for-height z-score, exceeds 30 percent; and the mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 individuals per day.

## **USAID/BHA Partner WFP Delivers Food Assistance to Central and West Darfur States**

USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) delivered nearly 1,300 metric tons of food commodities to food-insecure populations Central and West Darfur on April 5, the first time the UN agency has been able to access the region since a GoS decision in February to restrict humanitarian convoy movements from Chad. While the GoS allowed for this one-time UN convoy movement from Chad's Adre crossing point, access to West and Central Darfur remains particularly constrained as of April 16. Humanitarian actors continue to advocate for the full reauthorization of the Adre border crossing for the transport of humanitarian commodities, which is critical to deliver assistance to populations in RSF-controlled areas of Darfur at the scale and speed required to meet the dire needs in the region, particularly ahead of the June-to-September rainy season, which will limit large-scale convoy movements and deliveries. Relief actors, including USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners, continue to utilize alternative routes—such as the Tina border crossing in Chad and the northern route from Port Sudan to North Darfur's capital city of El Fasher—to deliver humanitarian assistance. However, even through approved routes, relief actors continue to face lengthy approval and clearance delays, among other systematic bureaucratic and administrative impediments by both the SAF and RSF, which as severely complicated the delivery of assistance. Of note, government and military authorities' routine denial of cross-line movement requests and delayed clearances since December continue to impede the delivery of humanitarian assistance to RSF-controlled areas of Darfur.

## **State/PRM Partner UNHCR Provides Humanitarian Assistance as Clashes in Sudan Continue to Displace Households and Restrict Response Efforts**

While some UNHCR partners were able to distribute relief items, ongoing clashes in Khartoum State, as well as the Kordofan and Darfur regions, continue to displace households and have hindered the ability of State/PRM partner UNHCR and other UN agencies to deliver much-needed assistance. From March 28 through April 3, nearly 200 IDP households from North and South Darfur states arrived at Tina transit center with the intention of crossing into eastern Chad. In areas where the security situation permits, such as Gedaref, Kassala, White Nile, and Blue Nile states, UNHCR has strengthened its operations to continue providing assistance to refugees and to respond to new displacement patterns. Nearly 110 secondarily displaced refugee households, comprising more than 810 individuals, arrived at Al Alagaya refugee camp in White Nile State from March 28 through April 3. UNHCR provided relief items, emergency shelters, cash assistance, and critical services, including education programs, legal aid for individuals lacking civil documentation, and psychosocial support. In Gedaref State, UNHCR's partner conducted six awareness raising sessions on gender-based violence prevention (GBV) and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in women's centers in Babikri, Tunaydbah, Um Gargour, and Um Rakuba camps from March 28 through April 3, reaching approximately 170 people. In addition, UNHCR has established new offices in Port Sudan, Wad Madani, and Wadi Halfa, where teams and partners are assisting refugees, IDPs, and other affected Sudanese people.

## KEY FIGURES



**6.5 Million**

People reached with WFP food assistance between the onset of the crisis on April 15 and January 31



**2.2 Million**

People reached with oral cholera vaccines in Gedaref and Gezira in November and December 2023 by UNICEF and WHO



**3.7 Million**

Children screened for malnutrition by USG partner UNICEF and other nutrition actors between April 15 and January 31



**186,000**

Women and children accessed GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response interventions provided by USG partner UNICEF in 2023

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support multiple UN agencies and nongovernmental 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 U.S.-sourced and locally and regionally procured cereals, pulses, and vegetable oil, as well as cash transfers for food. With support from USAID/BHA and other donors, the UN agency reached an estimated 6.5 million people across Sudan between April 15, 2023, and January 31, 2024, reaching approximately 728,000 people in January alone.

### HEALTH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNHCR, UNICEF, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), the UN World Health Organization (WHO), and NGO partners to deliver life-saving health care across Sudan, including through mobile clinics accessing hard-to-reach areas. USAID/BHA partners provide essential medicines and other supplies to health facilities and train health workers to address critical needs. In addition, USG partners—including UNFPA and UNICEF—support essential health interventions for IDPs, refugees, and other vulnerable populations in Sudan and neighboring countries.

### NUTRITION

IOM, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, and other USAID/BHA and State/PRM partner organizations prevent, identify, and treat acute malnutrition by providing nutritional supplements and conducting complementary agriculture, food security, health, and WASH activities. Between April 15, 2023 and January 31, 2024, UNICEF and other nutrition actors screened 3.7 million children ages five years and younger for malnutrition and admitted more than 231,000 children for treatment of severe acute malnutrition in Sudan.

### PROTECTION

USG partners—including UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, and NGOs—provide conflict-affected and vulnerable people with critical protection support in Sudan and neighboring countries, including the provision of case management services and safe spaces for survivors. With support from UNICEF, 186,000 women and children accessed GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response interventions in 2023. Additionally, UNFPA-supported mobile clinics provided health and GBV prevention and response services to more than 73,000 IDPs and host community members

across 11 states between April 15, 2023 and February 5, 2024. USAID/BHA also supports the UN Mine Action Service to provide critical mine risk awareness information for populations residing in or returning to conflict-affected areas potentially impacted by explosive remnants of war.



## 8.4 Million

People in Sudan provided with safe drinking water by UNICEF and other WASH actors between April 15 and January 31

### WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM continue to support IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, and NGOs to improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure for crisis-affected communities across Sudan to reduce the spread of infectious diseases, such as cholera and measles. With USG and other donor support, UNICEF and other WASH actors provided safe drinking water to an estimated 8.4 million people across Sudan between April 15, 2023, and January 31, 2024. To prevent the spread of cholera, USG partners are also supporting affected and at-risk populations with emergency WASH supplies, such as chlorine for water purification, hygiene kits, and water containers.

### CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- On April 11, 2019, following a civilian uprising due to fuel shortages, high bread prices, and other economic issues, Sudanese military officials overthrew President Omar al-Bashir, resulting in a civilian-led transitional government under Abdalla Hamdok as Prime Minister; however, subsequent political uncertainty contributed to heightened humanitarian, protection, and security concerns. Following political unrest, the military took over the transitional government on October 25, 2021, arresting civilian leadership and sparking widespread protests. On November 21, 2021, Hamdok was reinstated as Prime Minister under a power-sharing agreement with SAF military leader Abdel Fattah al-Burhan before resigning on January 2, 2022. On December 5, 2022, military leaders and representatives of civilian pro-democracy parties signed a preliminary agreement for a two-year transitional civilian government.
- Fighting between the RSF and SAF began on April 15, 2023, significantly escalating the humanitarian crisis in Sudan. On April 23, USAID/BHA activated a regionally based Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) and Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team to coordinate the USG response. In addition, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee activated an initial system-wide scale-up to mobilize operational capacities and resources for Sudan from August 29, 2023, to February 28, 2024, which has since been extended for three additional months. However, bureaucratic impediments and insecurity continue to hinder relief agencies' ability to respond.
- On October 31, 2023, U.S. Ambassador John T. Godfrey reissued a declaration of humanitarian need (DHN) in Sudan for FY 2024. The U.S. Mission in Sudan has issued annual disaster declarations or DHNs due to the complex emergency in Sudan since 1987.
- The USG, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development—participating on behalf of the African Union—convened two rounds of ceasefire negotiations between the RSF and SAF in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Following the first round of negotiations in May 2023, representatives signed a ceasefire agreement, which did not hold, and the May 11 Declaration, which defined the obligations of both sides under international humanitarian and human rights law to facilitate and safeguard humanitarian action to meet the emergency needs of civilians. The second round of negotiations—convened between October and November 2023—concluded without a ceasefire

agreement, though both parties reaffirmed their obligations under the May 11 Declaration. Parties have not upheld the declaration, and conflict-related protection violations against civilians have continued.

- After the second round of negotiations in Jeddah, RSF and SAF actors agreed to establish a Humanitarian Forum led by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance in Sudan. As of April 16, the forum had convened only once—on November 12, 2023—despite UN efforts for additional meetings. RSF and SAF commitments made during the Humanitarian Forum have not improved humanitarian access. The UN continues to lead high-level negotiations on the ground with parties to the conflict and advocate for humanitarian access; however, approvals to move assistance across conflict lines and into opposition-controlled areas are significantly delayed, hindering efforts to scale-up support in the most affected areas.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2024<sup>1,2,3</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/BHA</b>			
Sudan			
UNICEF	Nutrition—U.S. In-Kind Specialized Nutrition Products	Countrywide	\$11,000,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$10,000,000
WFP	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$76,978,621
Implementing Partners	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
	Program Support		\$1,038,841
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$100,017,462</b>
<b>State/PRM</b>			
Sudan			
Implementing Partner	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,200,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$15,300,000
Chad			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$17,550,000
South Sudan			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$12,420,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE</b>			<b>\$47,470,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2024</b>			<b>\$147,487,462</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect total publicly announced State/PRM funding as of April 16, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> State/PRM funding for South Sudan benefiting displaced people from Sudan is also reported in the USG South Sudan Fact Sheet

<sup>3</sup> USAID/BHA funding for neighboring countries, including the Central Africa Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, and South Sudan, benefiting displaced people from Sudan are not represented in USAID/BHA's funding for the Sudan crisis response in FY 2024; funding for these countries can be found in public information products linked here: <https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work>

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## 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)