Republic of the Sudan

ECHO FACTSHEET

Facts & Figures

Estimated **6.9 million** people are in need of humanitarian assistance.

Over 398 000 people have been displaced in Darfur in 2014 alone.

Number of refugees (UNHCR): 157 600

Number of new refugees from South Sudan (UNHCR): 94 196

Number of
Internally Displaced
People (IDPs) in
Darfur(UNOCHA):
2.4 million

European Commission humanitarian aid: over €200 million since 2011.

€27 million allocated in 2014.

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UNICEF Sudan

Key messages

- More than 10 years since the Darfur conflict broke out, violence and insecurity continue to cause displacement, despite the Doha Peace Agreement.
- Since January 2014 due to the fighting between government forces and rebel groups and fighting among Arab tribes in Darfur, almost 400 000 people have been newly displaced. This is the highest number of internally displaced persons (IDP) since 2004.
- Fighting in the South Kordofan and Blue Nile states has affected over 1.1 million people, resulting in an increasing number of refugees in Ethiopia and South Sudan, as well as numerous IDPs.
- Due to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in South Sudan more than 94 000 people fled into Sudan. The influx of South Sudanese refugees is on the rise.
- The operating environment for humanitarian organisations is severely constrained in Sudan and has been deteriorating since the beginning of 2014. Better access is needed to all vulnerable and conflict-affected people in order to conduct needs-based assessments and to provide humanitarian aid according to needs.
- Since 2011, the European Commission has allocated over €200 million to provide life-saving assistance to IDPs, refugees and people affected by natural disasters in Sudan.

Humanitarian situation and needs

The humanitarian situation in Sudan remains critical following years of conflict, natural disasters and underdevelopment. The country has over 2.4 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), high levels of malnutrition with an estimated 2 million children under five suffering from acute malnutrition, and a lack of infrastructure and basic services. About 6.9 million people in Sudan are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance. The number has increased since 2013 owing to a combination of the recent huge population displacements in Darfur and along the border areas, as well as the prolonged crises in some regions, which hinder long-term recovery.

In Darfur, after more than ten years of conflict, 3.2 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance. These include some 2.4 million people mainly living in IDP camps. Due to conflict, insecurity and administrative impediments, humanitarian access, personnel and operations have been reduced. This has prevented necessary comprehensive needs assessments or in-depth analyses of the impact of humanitarian operations. Tribal fighting and presence of uncontrolled militia has resulted in increased security in the region since beginning of 2013, including in capital cities of the states. Such fighting has displaced almost 400 000 people throughout Darfur in 2014.

Tensions remain high in **the Transitional Areas** (South Kordofan and Blue Nile), along the border to South Sudan. The lack of access and first-hand information makes it impossible to know the extent and severity of the crisis. According to estimates, over 1.1 million people have been affected since May 2011, including local communities, IDPs and refugees fleeing to South Sudan and to Ethiopia. South Sudan currently hosts over 221 000 refugees from South Kordofan and Blue Nile while almost 35 000 have found refuge in Ethiopia. In addition, 170 000 people have been displaced by the fighting in South Kordofan.

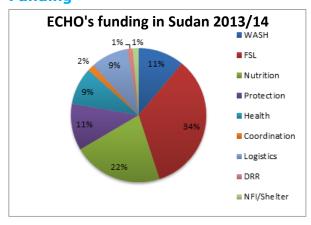
The East has some of the worst malnutrition indicators in Sudan among children under five. Though it would be desirable to link humanitarian and development activities, there are limited opportunities for international organisations to work in the region. The region also hosts more than 90 000 Eritrean refugees.

More than 94 000 South Sudanese refugees have arrived in Sudan since mid-December 2013. Some assistance has been delivered by national authorities and international relief agencies. A more tailored assistance could be delivered once the Sudanese authorities confirm the intention of granting a quasicitizenship legal status. According to UNHCR new arrivals from South Sudan may rise to 165 000 by the end of the year.

Since the independence of South Sudan an estimated 350 000 South Sudanese have remained in Sudan, living in very precarious conditions. More than 30 000 South Sudanese are still stranded in open areas in and around Khartoum. With the recent crisis in South Sudan, few returns are expected to take place.

The European Union's Humanitarian Response

Funding



The European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) supports the provision of assistance to stabilise the living conditions of IDPs and of Chadian refugees who fled conflict in their country. ECHO provides emergency aid for people recently displaced or affected by natural disasters. Since 2011 ECHO has spent around €200 million for live saving assistance to Sudan. In 2014, the Commission has allocated €27 million for humanitarian projects in Sudan.



Projects

The European Commission is providing support to several sectors including health and nutrition, water and sanitation, food security and livelihoods, as well as catering for the needs of the conflict affected. ECHO mainly focuses on Darfur given the prevailing needs and the access conditions but also funds interventions in other areas of Sudan.

Emergency preparedness and response in the sectors of food assistance and livelihoods, access to health, provision of clean water and sanitation, shelter and non-food items for conflict affected populations are the priority for ECHO. At the same time ECHO helps to engage the local population in order to build their resilience to seasonal shocks.

The nutritional status of children under five is of concern in much of the country, due to poor access to healthcare and clean water, but also food insecurity. ECHO contributes to providing better coverage for the treatment of acute malnutrition in some of the most critically hit areas in Sudan. Regrettably, partner organisations that were providing assistance for nutrition in the eastern states of Sudan had their projects suspended by the authorities in 2012. The lack of clean water and inadequate sanitation have a huge impact on health and contributes substantially to children's vulnerability to malnutrition. ECHO-funded actions are improving access to safe water and sanitation and are promoting hygiene for those displaced by conflict, returning home or affected by natural disasters.

Food aid and emergency food security activities account for the bulk of ECHO's funding in Sudan (€20 million in 2013).

Examples of Humanitarian Projects in Sudan



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In 2013, the **World Food Programme** (WFP) aimed to feed over 3 million people in conflict-affected Darfur, South and North Kordofan, Blue Nile, Kassala, and Red Sea states of Sudan. In Darfur, 613 500 people were targeted with cash vouchers instead of in kind food. Cash vouchers enable families to buy fresh produce that cannot be included in conventional food rations, such as meat, vegetables and eggs. The use of vouchers also helps boost the local economy by creating a demand for local produce. Each family receives a coupon worth 32 Sudanese pounds (about €4) per month. In 2013, with € 20 million funding from ECHO, WFP focussed on reducing food insecurity and treating malnutrition among internally displaced people, refugees, and other vulnerable groups of people affected by conflict and natural disasters.



With funding from the European Commission, **CARE** has provided water and sanitation services targeting vulnerable populations in and outside of the camps. CARE has reached over 350 000 people with life-saving assistance in four camps for the internally displaced in Nyala. The high number of deaths and emergency levels of malnutrition in Nyala have been blamed on food insecurity, limited livelihood opportunities, and poor hygiene practices. The project has provided clean drinking water, latrines and hygiene training with the aim of controlling communicable diseases and lowering malnutrition levels, especially among children under five and women of reproductive age.

