



Sudan

ECHO FACTSHEET

Facts & Figures

(source: UNOCHA)

5.8 million people in need of humanitarian assistance (= 15% of the population), including **3.3 million** in Darfur

4.6 million food insecure people

2.1 million acutely malnourished children (GAM) representing 1 in 6 children in Sudan

Number of internally displaced people:

- Up to 3.2 million in Sudan
- 2.6 million in Darfur
- Estimated 600 000 IDPs in South Kordofan and Blue Nile

Number of Refugees:

Over 400 000 including 263 245 South Sudanese reported by UNHCR (as of 15 Nov. 2016)

Since 2009, a **drop of over 75% in the number of aid workers** in international organisations in **Darfur**

European Commission humanitarian aid:

- over €314 million since 2011
- €82 million (including €30 million in response to El Niño) since 2016

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Children and mothers being screened for malnutrition in Kassala region. ©EU/ECHO/Anouk Delafortrie

Key messages

- Thirteen years since the start of the **Darfur** crisis, fighting and inter-tribal tensions still trigger conflict and population displacements. An estimated 2.6 million people have been uprooted from their homes, including 1.6 million who live scattered across 60 camps. Fighting and insecurity in Darfur has displaced at least 97 000 people in 2016. 100 000 more were reportedly displaced but could not be registered nor reached with humanitarian aid at an adequate scale. Some Sudanese displaced people and refugees are also returning to their homes in Darfur. They need support to safely rebuild their lives and livelihoods.
- In **South Kordofan** and **Blue Nile** states, ongoing violence and sustained food insecurity has affected hundreds of thousand people, many of which have fled to other parts of Sudan or to neighbouring [Ethiopia](#)* and [South Sudan](#)*.
- Sudan hosts more than 260 000 South Sudanese **refugees** and has seen a surge of arrivals since the start of 2016. A majority of the 100 000 new arrivals in 2016 are children and women. Sudan also hosts 140 000 refugees from other countries in the region. With many refugees arriving weakened and destitute, assistance needs to be maintained and scaled up.
- **Acute malnutrition** rates in Sudan are the highest in the Middle East and North Africa region. It affects an estimated 2.1 million children. Efforts to step up treatment have been ongoing in 2016, with the support of the European Commission. More than 209 000 severely malnourished children were treated. In addition, 4.6 million people faced serious **food insecurity** after a difficult year that witnessed a severe **El Niño** drought.
- The immense needs call for **increased humanitarian assistance and funding**. Signs that restrictions on humanitarian operations could be eased, allowing for timely and effective aid delivery to affected populations, are yet to materialize. Humanitarian organizations still operate in a constrained environment when they should be given unimpeded and sustained access to people in need.

Humanitarian situation and needs

The humanitarian situation in Sudan remains critical following years of conflict compounded by natural disasters and underdevelopment. Sudan is classified by the European Commission as a 'forgotten crisis', a protracted crisis that has all but fallen off the agenda of the international media and community as far as humanitarian assistance is concerned. The country counts approximately 3.2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), is plagued by malnutrition and characterised by a lack of infrastructure and basic services. Independent needs assessments and the timely delivery of aid to an estimated 5.8 million people in need of humanitarian assistance are a constant challenge due to access constraints and administrative hurdles.

An estimated 2.6 million people are internally displaced in **Darfur** alone, a further increase due to the resumption of violence and insecurity in the **Jebel Marra** area. With nighttime temperatures down to 7 degrees at this time of the year, recently displaced people urgently need shelter, household supplies and fuel for heating and cooking. Refugees and displaced people who are returning or want to return home in Darfur cite protection, food, household supplies, clean water, education and health services as urgent requirements.

Tensions also remain high in the so-called transitional areas of **South Kordofan and Blue Nile** along the border with South Sudan. It is difficult to gauge the extent and severity of the crisis given the limited access for humanitarian organisations, but there have been mass displacements both internally and to South Sudan and Ethiopia. Years of conflict and limited assistance are also impacting on limited local capacity and access to food and basic services for most vulnerable households is increasingly under pressure.

The **East** of the country has some of the worst malnutrition indicators among children under five and initial efforts to scale up nutrition prevention and treatment should continue, including through further development engagement. The region also hosts more than 90 000 mostly Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers, who continue to cross into the country at a rate of 700 per month.

The more than 260 000 **South Sudanese refugees** that have crossed into Sudan since fighting erupted in their country in December 2013, live either in camps, among local communities or out in the open in and around the capital Khartoum, and in White Nile, Darfur and Kordofan. Urgent needs are being addressed by national and international organisations, but huge gaps remain in terms of protection, food, shelter, water and health care. An estimated 350 000 South Sudanese have been living in Sudan since before their country's independence and continue to do so, often in precarious conditions; at least 145 000 live in open areas in and around Khartoum.

The European Union's Humanitarian Response

The European Commission responds to emergency needs resulting from conflict, severe food insecurity and malnutrition. Since 2011, the Commission has spent €314 million in humanitarian funding for life-saving assistance to people in Sudan, including €64 million in 2016. The initial allocation of €25 million for 2016 has been increased three times to support critical gaps in Education in Emergencies (€ 1 million), for the response to El Niño induced drought (€30 million) and for additional emergency operations addressing acute humanitarian needs linked to new conflict-related displacements and malnutrition (€ 8 million).

The European Commission is providing support in the fields of health and nutrition, water and sanitation, shelter, protection, emergency education, food security and livelihoods. It caters for the needs of those affected by conflict with a focus on new emergencies, such as recent displacements in Darfur and new arrivals from South Sudan. Food assistance and nutrition accounts for the bulk of the Commission's humanitarian aid funding in Sudan, in response to above emergency levels of malnutrition and food insecurity. 2 million children suffer from global acute malnutrition, including 500,000 suffering from its more severe form.



Examples of EU funded Humanitarian Projects in Sudan



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In 2016, the European Commission's contribution is enabling the **World Food Programme (WFP)** to provide sorghum (a food staple in Sudan) to 137 000 displaced people in Darfur for three months and pulses for more than 180 000 South Sudanese refugees for six months. WFP is also using part of the contribution to support 88 200 displaced people in Darfur with cash-based transfers in the form of food vouchers for three months. The UN's Humanitarian Air Services-UNHAS, which is run by WFP, also receives funds to fly humanitarian workers to remote and otherwise inaccessible areas.

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



El Niño-driven drought and low rainfalls have contributed to a worsening of the nutritional condition of children in Sudan. An additional 60 000 children were expected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in 2016 compared to 2015. European Commission funds to **UNICEF** are helping to scale up the screening and treatment of undernourished children in 12 Sudanese states including Darfur, Eastern Sudan, Kordofan and White Nile. The Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) approach is carried out in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and various partners. UNICEF also manages the pipeline for therapeutic foods, improving the access to, as well as the quality of, nutrition interventions such as infant and young child feeding in emergencies. UNICEF's nutrition activities contribute to the reduction of mortality and illness among displaced populations and refugees, but also among drought affected and under-served populations in Sudan. © EU/ECHO/Anouk Delafortrie

