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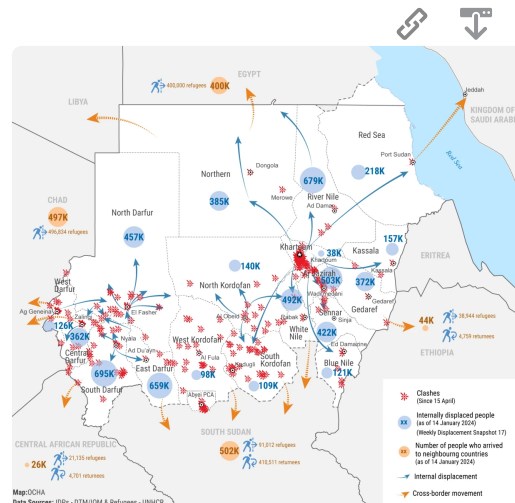
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ANALYSIS (1 week ago)

Sudan Humanitarian Update (21 January 2024)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Nine months after the war erupted between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on 15 April 2023 in the capital Khartoum, about 7.6 million people have fled their homes, taking refuge inside and outside Sudan, with children representing about half of the people displaced. Sudan is now the country with the largest number of displaced people and the largest child displacement crisis in the world.



According to the [International Organization for Migration Displacement Tracking Matrix \(IOM DTM\) Sudan Weekly Displacement Snapshot \(17\)](#), about 6.1 million people have been displaced within Sudan, increasing by an estimated 19,600 people over the past week. The 6.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) are sheltering in 6,355 locations across all of Sudan's 18 states, an increase of 73 locations in one week. The majority of IDPs – 67 per cent – are residing in host communities, compared to 7 per cent living camps. The highest number of IDPs were observed in South Darfur (12 per cent), followed by River Nile (11 per cent), East Darfur (11 per cent), White Nile (8 per cent), Aj Jazirah (8 per cent), and North Darfur (8 per cent). IOM DTM field teams report that the IDPs were originally displaced from 12 states, the majority of people displaced, about 3.6 million (59 per cent of all people displaced internally) are from Khartoum State, followed by South Darfur (15 per cent), North Darfur (8 per cent), Aj Jazirah (8 per cent), Central Darfur (4 per cent), West Darfur (3 per cent), and the rest in other six states. In addition, about 1.5 million people have crossed into neighbouring countries since 15 April 2023, [according to the UN Refugee Agency \(UNHCR\)](#).

More than 13,000 people killed and at least 26,000 injured since April 2023

Since fighting first broke out between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on 15 April, [ACLED recorded more than 13,100 reported fatalities](#) in Sudan as of 12 January 2024. Meanwhile, according to the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH), about 26,051 people were injured across Sudan between 15 April and 8 December 2023. Meanwhile, the [WHO Surveillance System for Attacks on Health Care \(SSA\)](#) indicates that 60 attacks on health care have been reported since the onset of the violence on 15 April. This includes 39 attacks that impacted facilities; 23 attacks impacted personnel; 17 attacks impacted supplies; eight attacks impacted transport; seven attacks impacted patients; and seven attacks impacted warehouses. The attacks resulted in 34 deaths and 38 injuries.

UN expert on human rights in Sudan urges the parties to the conflict to end violence

The UN expert on human rights in Sudan, Radhouane Nouicer, [on 17 January deplored](#) the grim human rights situation in Sudan as the brutal armed conflict entered its 10th month. He urged the leaders of the two parties to the conflict to immediately end the violence, ensure a transition to civilian rule and heed the calls of victims for peace and justice. As fighting between the SAF and the RSF spreads across the country, violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are continuing unabated. It is crucial that the leaders of both sides show more political will to put an end to violence and silence the guns, Nouicer said, adding that both parties had shown complete disregard for international human rights law as well as international humanitarian law, in particular the principles on the conduct of hostilities.

Grain prices, WFP local food basket cost increase in December

During December 2023, prices for sorghum, wheat, goats, and the World Food Programme (WFP) local food basket (LFB) recorded a noteworthy increase compared to November 2023, while the average price of groundnut saw a significant decrease, according to [WFP's Market Monitor for Sudan, December 2023](#). The cost of a single unit of the WFP LFB increased by 9.6 per cent, rising from SDG 755 in November to SDG 827 in December, indicating a 69.22 per cent increase compared to December 2022 (SDG 489). While the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) of Sudan has not published any updates on the inflation rate since February 2023, it is anticipated to remain above 300 per cent given the significant surge in prices for goods and services, according to WFP. The current situation is expected to lead to a severe shortage of food supply and essential commodities. Coupled with an anticipated below-average crop yield this season, the increasing prices of goods and services pose a significant risk of food insecurity for millions of Sudanese people across the country, according to WFP.

Devastating conflict and organized violence, coupled with the continued economic decline, have driven about 17.7 million people across Sudan (37 per cent of the population) into high levels of acute food insecurity, classified in the [Integrated Food Security Phase Classification \(IPC\)](#) Phase 3 or above (Crisis or worse) between October 2023 and February 2024. This includes about 4.9 million people (10 per cent of the population) who are in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and almost 12.8 million people (27 per cent of the population analyzed) are in IPC Phase 3 (Crisis). The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) sounded the alarm about the escalating food security crisis in Sudan, urging immediate and collective action to avert an impending humanitarian catastrophe.

Parts of Sudan are at a high risk of slipping into catastrophic hunger conditions by next year's lean season if humanitarian organizations, including the World Food Programme (WFP), are unable to expand access and regularly deliver food assistance to people trapped in conflict hotspots such as Khartoum, the Darfurs, and the Kordofans, WFP warned. The expansion of fighting in December 2023 between the SAF and the RSF into parts of central and eastern Sudan – the country's most important regions for crop production – has driven a significant increase in humanitarian needs during the harvesting season (December and January), [according to the FEWS NET](#). This development is expected to lead to considerable deterioration in acute food insecurity in the southeast from what was previously expected, worsening an already dire situation. About 3.5 million children already are acute malnourished, of whom 700,000 suffer from the most dangerous form of malnutrition – severe acute malnutrition, and without treatment are at significant risk of dying.

Decline in health care services and increasing disease outbreaks

After the war erupted on 15 April 2023, more than 70 per cent of hospitals in the conflict-afflicted states are no longer functional, according to health cluster partners. A stockpile of pharmaceutical supplies set up in Aj Jazirah State as a regional warehouse became inaccessible when the conflict spread to the state in mid-December. This stockpile is sufficient for six months for the whole of Sudan. The inability to access these supplies leaves hundreds of thousands of patients, especially those with chronic and incurable diseases, at risk of further harm if the situation is not rectified and supplies are distributed to targeted hospitals and health centres. With the decline of health services, disease outbreaks – including cholera, dengue fever, malaria and measles that were under control before the conflict – have been on the rise

owing to the disruption of public health services and causing deaths. More than 9,700 suspected cholera cases, including 269 associated deaths, were reported as of 16 January 2024 from 60 localities of 11 states, according to the Federal Ministry of Health (FMoH) and the World Health Organization (WHO) [Sudan Outbreaks Dashboard](#). This is an increase of about 21.7 per cent compared to the number of cases reported on 16 December 2023. However, the trend over the past three months is on a downward trajectory, with much lower increase compared to previous months. For instance, between 16 November – 16 December the number of cases increased by 140.6 per cent, and between 16 October and 16 November the increase was 142.4 per cent. Oral cholera vaccination campaigns were carried out in Gedaref and Aj Jazirah states during November, and in a locality in Khartoum State in December, reaching over 2.2 million people.

Impact of conflict on civilians

Conflict between SAF and RSF and inter-communal clashes in the Darfur and Kordofan regions have led to civilian deaths and displacement during the reporting period.

In Aj Jazirah State, four persons were killed, and an unidentified number of people were displaced when clashes renewed on 13 January between the SAF and the RSF in Wad Al Haddad village, Janub Al Jazirah locality. IOM DTM field teams report that the situation remains tense and unpredictable.

In South Kordofan, about 200 residents of Abu Kershola town in Abu Kershola locality fled their homes on 12 January due to concerns of potential escalations in the security situation in the area. IOM DTM teams received reports that the majority of affected households sought refuge in Ar Rahad town of Ar Rahad locality. A smaller group of about 60 IDPs fled to Um Rawaba town in North Kordofan State. The situation on the ground is reportedly tense.

In South Darfur, three people were reportedly killed, and nine others sustained injuries after the SAF conducted air strikes targeting RSF positions in Almatar, Al Riyad and Seka Hadeed neighbourhoods in Nyala town on 10 January. IOM DTM field teams reported that some residents were displaced from affected neighbourhoods to western neighbourhoods within Nyala town as well as to locations in Mershing locality. Estimates on the number of displaced individuals are yet to be confirmed. The situation remains tense and unpredictable.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Various challenges - insecurity, looting, bureaucratic impediments, poor network and phone connectivity, lack of cash, and limited technical and humanitarian staff on the ground – have been affecting the delivery of humanitarian assistance in many parts of the country. Fuel shortages also affect the movement of humanitarian staff and supplies and the generation of power needed for operations (maintaining cold chain storage, supplying water, etc). Despite all these challenges, humanitarian partners continue to provide life-saving assistance to the vulnerable people they can reach. The conflict – particularly in Khartoum, Darfur and Kordofan – has exacerbated an already dire humanitarian situation. Humanitarian needs across Sudan are at record highs with 24.8 million people, or every second person, needing humanitarian assistance in 2024. This is 9 million more than in 2023. Millions lack access to essential goods and services such as food, water, shelter, electricity, education, health care and nutrition.

About 2.6 million patients receive medicines, and 1.8 million consultations provided

The Health Cluster reports that between 15 April and 31 December 2023, health partners provided 2.6 million patients with medicines and 1.8 million out-patient consultations across Sudan. This includes 2 million patients receiving medication from international NGOs, 0.5 million patients reached by UN agencies and 100,000 patients assisted by national NGOs. According to some preliminary reports, a significant part of the country's medicine and vaccine stock in Wad Medani was lost or looted after the conflict expanded to Aj Jazira State in December 2023.

For more information on cluster-specific response see the latest [Sudan Humanitarian Response Dashboard](#).

HUMANITAIRAN RESPONSE PLAN FUNDING OVERVEIW

The 2024 [Sudan Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan \(HNRP\)](#) requires US\$2.7 billion to provide life-saving multi-cluster and protection assistance to 14.7 million people across Sudan in 2024. As of 21 January 2024, the appeal is 3.1 per cent funded, with \$83.8 million received, according to the [Financial Tracking Service](#). The [Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan for 2023](#) is 42.6 per cent funded.

Previous updates:

- [Sudan Humanitarian Update, 14 January 2024](#)
- [Sudan Humanitarian Update, 4 January 2024](#)

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