Main challenges in country

Sudan has a population of approximately 37 million people and is the third-largest country in Africa\(^1\). Sudan has a life expectancy of 64.5 years, the 38th lowest in the world and an infant mortality rate of 44.8 per 1,000 in 2016\(^2\). Sudan has been affected by conflict for most of its recent history. Under the terms of a peace agreement in 2005, its southern states seceded, forming the Republic of South Sudan in 2011. This has caused multiple economic shocks. Oil had accounted for more than half of Sudan’s government revenue and 95% of its exports. Desertification and soil erosion are serious concerns. Agricultural expansion has caused deforestation, soil desiccation, and the lowering of soil fertility and the water table\(^3\).

There are acute humanitarian needs across the Darfur region, Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, eastern Sudan and other areas primarily driven by poverty, underdevelopment, and climatic factors, but in many cases, they continue to be caused by conflict and inter-communal tensions. Humanitarian access is restricted in a
number of areas, including those under the control of Sudan People’s Liberation Movement—North (SPLM-N), and the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA) since 2011.

People in 11 of the 18 states in Sudan are experiencing Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates at or above the emergency threshold of 15 per cent. Only three of these states—Red Sea, Kassala and Gedaref—are not affected by conflict. 3.8 million people are estimated to be food and livelihoods insecure in Sudan, according to the latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) analysis for October 2017.

Environmental factors are also contributing to displacement and food insecurity. In particular, Sudan has recently experienced unpredictable rainfall patterns and drought, with consequences to the harvest and food supply. Drought in areas of Kassala, Gedaref and North Darfur have resulted in crop failure, and consequent food insecurity. In other areas, annual rainfall caused flash-flooding, resulting in temporary displacement and the destruction of homes and livelihoods. Drought conditions are also responsible for the advance by two months of pastoralists seeking grasses for their herds.

Despite being a refugee-generating country, Sudan continues to receive refugees from South Sudan, and Sudan hosts significant numbers of refugees from Eritrea, Chad, Ethiopia, the Central African Republic, Syria and Yemen. There is a significant number of internally displaced people. According to the most recent 2018 Humanitarian Needs Assessment there are an estimated 2.3 million IDPs and a total number of 5.5 million people are estimated to need humanitarian assistance, an increase of 0.7 million compared to 2017. 3.1 million people in need are in Darfur. Food insecurity needs increased mainly driven by increases in prices⁴.
There are several international humanitarian organisations operating mainly in the south and the Darfur region of Sudan such as the World Food Programme (WFP); the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF); the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); the United Nations Mine Service (UNMAS), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The National Society role and profile

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) has presence across the territory, with branches in each of the 16 states and a volunteer network. The National Society is the largest and most widespread humanitarian organisation in Sudan, with 40,000 registered and active volunteers who are part of local and hard-to-reach communities. The National Society is a key player in the refugee operations in White Nile and has been partnering with UN organisations and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to distribute food, non-food items and emergency shelter, provide health services and restore family links to refugees. It also delivers its emergency humanitarian assistance and long-term developmental support to the communities in collaboration with government departments including the Ministries of Health, Social Welfare, Education, Agriculture, Environment, Interior and Foreign Affairs. The National Society also coordinates and collaborates with local and international non-governmental organisations as well as community-based organisations. The private sector in Sudan as well as international volunteer organisations respond to and support the National Society appeals for support following disasters.

In 2017, the National Society collaborated with UNHCR to support the registration of refugees, coordination, provision of basic services on health, water, sanitation and hygiene, and education to more than 183,000 people in Sudan East and South Darfur, West and South Kordofan and the White Nile states. It is operating 3 Primary Health Centres in White Nile for refugees and host communities and providing water in the refugee camps. With support from WFP the National Society is distributing food aid to 300,000 South Sudanese refugees in 5 states, while UNHCR assists with the provision of non-food items.

The priority needs and targets of the National Society in Sudan are guided by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society 2011–2020 Strategic Plan which outlines their 10-year vision and strategic objectives.

The Role of IFRC office in support of National Society

In 2018, the IFRC National Society Development (NSD) unit worked with SRCS to conduct Branch Organisational Capacity Assessments (BOCA) and is now implementing programmes to strengthen the National Society’s capacity. IFRC also supports the National Society through the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and provides it with finance and logistics support.
The success of the 2019/2020 Country Operational Plan is dependent upon the status agreement that the IFRC is negotiating with the Government of Sudan. The status agreement will potentially enable the IFRC to set up a structure in-country and to coordinate Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners—a gap which has been identified by the National Society and Partner National Societies. The 2019/2020 Country Operational Plan will be used by the IFRC to ensure a common approach in engaging with and supporting the National Society. The plan is in line with: a) the 2011–2020 SRCS Strategic Plan which seeks to enable the National Society to deliver humanitarian assistance in a sustainable way; b) the IFRC Africa Roadmap for 2017–2020 which seeks to support National Societies deliver assistance. The Roadmap identifies Sudan as a priority country for the IFRC to explore opportunities with the National Society to develop and implement multi-year programmes, and to remove obstacles to the National Society’s ability to address humanitarian challenges, such as inadequate preparedness, financial dependence on external funding and gaps in volunteer management structures.

The IFRC will support the National Society in its efforts to strengthen its preparedness capacity through the Preparedness for Emergency Response (PER) assessment, which will inform the priority Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) activities of the National Society.

In addition to enhancing its presence in Sudan, the IFRC will also work with the National Society to strengthen its structure in line with Pan African Conference (PAC) indicators, the Africa Roadmap and the National Society strategic plan. This will be achieved through investment in volunteer management and retention systems, Organisational Capacity Assessment and Certification (OCAC), training of staff and volunteers, and strengthening the National Society through the development, updating and reviewing of strategic documents, including youth policies, resource mobilisation strategies and community engagement and accountability frameworks.

The ICRC has been present in Sudan since 1978. The National Society and the ICRC are collaborating to strengthen the capacity of the SRCS around the Safer Access Framework Concept and, with the support of the IFRC, are exploring potential synergies with BOCA. ICRC supports the National Society in Restoring Family Links (RFL), communications, EPR as well as in implementing ICRC’s Economic Security unit (ECOSEC) policies, health, water and habitat related activities. These activities are in following states; Blue Nile, South Kordofan, North Darfur, Central Darfur, and South Darfur. The contribution from the ICRC to strengthening the National Society capacities are streamlined around the Safer Access Framework Concept.
AREAS OF FOCUS

100,000
PEOPLE TO BE MADE RESILIENT AGAINST DISASTERS.

42,000
PEOPLE RESTORE AND STRENGTHEN THEIR SAFETY, WELL BEING AND LONG-TERM RECOVERY THROUGH SHELTER AND SETTLEMENT SOLUTIONS.

34,000
PEOPLE RESTORE AND STRENGTHEN THEIR LIVELIHOODS.

460,000
PEOPLE HAVE THEIR HEALTH AND DIGNITY IMPROVED THROUGH INCREASED ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE HEALTH SERVICES.

41,000
PEOPLE WILL HAVE INCREASED ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE AND SUSTAINABLE WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE SERVICES.

50,000
PEOPLE WILL HAVE ACCESS TO CULTURALLY SENSITIVE SOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES.

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES
- ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT
- INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS
- ENSURE A STRONG IFRC
Sudan is prone to floods and over the past 10 years, SRCS has requested financial support from the DREF and issued emergency appeals for 8 response operations. The most recent flood response operation funded by the DREF was launched in August 2018 to support 12,500 of the 45,700 flood affected people in Kassala, Sennar, Gezira, West Kordofan, Elgezira, Northern, and White Nile states. According to ACAPS in 2016, the flooding is attributed to the overflowing of the Nile and its tributaries. ACAPS notes that the frequency of flooding has been increasing during the past 20 years due to desertification in Sudan and Ethiopia. On average, 200,000 people are affected by floods annually.

Floods affect the same states and occur during the same period (July to September) every year. The National Society, in alignment with the Strategic Development Goals (SDGs) and the Africa RoadMap, is therefore committed to focus its long-term operational strategies on developing multi-hazards early warning systems, forecast based financing, and efforts that help communities at risk to anticipate, plan and respond to flood emergencies.

Although the National Society has faced challenges in mobilising resources to enhance its capacity to respond to the flood disasters, it expects to be able to develop a contingency plan, mobilise resources, and pre-position and train its disaster response teams to be able to respond without referring to the DREF for financial support.

Sudan is also vulnerable to: droughts, desertification, wildfires, pest infestations, dust storms, thunder storms, heat waves, wind storms, human and livestock disease epidemics, environmental degradation, biological hazards, technological hazards, conflict and disputes.
The IFRC will support the National Society to strengthen its disaster risk reduction capacity at the national and state levels by creating, training and equipping response tools such as National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT) and Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT). The National Society disaster management and programmes officers and volunteers from 18 branches will be trained on contingency planning and standard operating procedures in line with the national and local plans. The National Society, with technical support of meteorological department and relevant authorities, will help communities to establish people-oriented early warning and dissemination systems to undertake preparedness actions such as evacuation plans and prepositioning of knowledge and stock.

| Multi-Hazard National Early Warning System in Place | 1 |
| 1 National and 1 Local Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy is in Place |
| National Society Has Developed a Forecast-Based Action Plan |
| Community Contingency Plan in Place | 1 |
| Community Early Warning Systems in Place and Linked with Local or National Meteorological Systems | 12 |
| People Reached with Public Awareness and Education Campaigns | 40,000 |
| Climate Change Mitigation Activities Implemented | 10 |
| People Are Reached through Awareness Campaigns on Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability | 60,000 |
| National Society is Applying Well Prepared National Society (WPNS) and Disaster Response Capacity Evaluation (DRCE) Tools to Assess Their Disaster Preparedness |

Outcome: Communities in high risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disasters.
According to UN-OCHA’s Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview (February 2018), the conflicts in Darfur, South Kordofan, and Blue Nile have caused an estimated internal displacement of 1.997 million people. In addition, there are an estimated 386,000 returnees. The same report states that 1.5 million people, particularly women and children, are identified as those most in need of shelter assistance.

As part of its preparedness plan, the National Society will seek to procure and preposition emergency shelter kits for flood response. These stocks will be in strategic locations near flood prone areas. The National Society will also train its NDRTs, BDRTs and volunteers in the Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter and Settlement Awareness (PASSA), in support of one of the key milestones in the Africa Roadmap; “shelter technical expertise is expanded to ensure that shelter responses are implemented with expert technical assessment and planning”. In order to enhance the quality of support provided to the affected communities, the National Society will engage and sign Memoranda of Understanding with local partners that have expert knowledge in safe and durable shelter solutions, which is a key milestone in the roadmap.
The National Society plans to provide shelter assistance through the provision of improved huts to families that are vulnerable to floods, IDPs and returnees. It will also continue to support the provision of 1,000 household latrine facilities. The main shelter priorities are to maintain protection from extreme weather and environmental risks, and to provide sanitation services in IDP camps. The National Society will work closely with relevant Government departments, United Nations (UN) and other shelter organisations to prioritize locations for interventions. The National Society will work closely with the Government, UN-HABITAT, and ZOA International on training to National Society volunteers and communities in cement brick production. The priority locations for shelter interventions are the flood prone areas and locations with concentrations of IDPs, including in the Darfur and White Nile states.
AREA OF FOCUS
LIVELIHOODS AND BASIC NEEDS

Droughts in Sudan, mostly affecting Northern and Central states, attributed to the effects of climate change, negatively impact livestock and crop production. UN OCHA’s SUDAN: Humanitarian Snapshot - Food insecurity, seasonal hazards, and displacement (July 2018) notes that the food security outlook based on the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) methodology indicates that between May 2018 and July 2018 at least 6.2 million people would be in IPC Phases 3 and 4 (stressed and crisis phases respectively) and would require food assistance. That total number includes local communities (41%), IDPs (39%), refugees (16%) and returnees (4%), and half are in Darfur. Although the situation is expected to improve in October 2018, there will still be a need to provide humanitarian assistance.

Agricultural and pastoral activities provide income for 60–80% of Sudanese households (ACAPS 2016). However, the increasingly frequent desertification and droughts are negatively affecting production capacities. Competition for grazing also poses a risk of conflict and induces migration by pastoralists. According to UN-OCHA’s Sudan Humanitarian Needs Overview (February 2018) and the Sudan Ministry of Health, there are 694,000 children and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) with 15 out of Sudan’s 18 states having 15% malnutrition prevalence, which is above the WHO emergency threshold.

The IFRC operation will therefore support livelihood diversification through skills development and small entrepreneurship to help reduce poverty. An investment will be made in creating job opportunities for host communities in line with the African Roadmap, to increase the number of women and men trained in vocational skills. Creating equitable livelihood opportunities for host communities and refugees is intended to reduce tension from competition for limited resources and improve social harmony, co-existence and environmental sustainability. The IFRC will support the National Society’s work to “End Hunger” (Sustainable Development Goal 2) and improve food security and nutrition by promoting sustainable agriculture through the training of farmers. It will also support them with improved seed and agricultural techniques.
The operation will deliberately target women and other marginalized sectors of the society with the aim of promoting SDG 5 on Gender Equality and the relevant Africa Roadmap milestone.

Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA), Vouchers for Fuel, and irrigation activities along the White Nile will be considered as possible activities for vulnerable populations. The National Society will also explore the feasibility of, and opportunities to use cash-based intervention as a possible option for addressing food insecurity and livelihoods needs. It will also explore and assess the scaling of its cash capacities in line with the Africa Roadmap.

The intervention will target vulnerable communities in the states of North, East, South Darfur, West Kordofan, White Nile, Blue Nile, South Kordofan, Kassala, Red Sea, and Khartoum. The identification of potential beneficiaries will be based on verification assessments based on IFRC beneficiary selection and registration criteria and secondary data shared with SRCs partners and stakeholders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communities, especially in disaster and crisis-affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People able to stabilize their income</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households with enough food, cash and income to meet their survival threshold</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People reached with food assistance or cash for basic needs</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households are supported to increase their food production</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People reached with training on farming techniques</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers provided with improved seeds</td>
<td>630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households are provided with assistance to meet minimum expenditure needs (food, food-related and non-food items)</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
According to UN-OCHA, approximately 5.2 million people have urgent humanitarian health needs. Of these, 2 million are IDPs and 763,000 are refugees, 765,750 are women of reproductive age. Some 820,000 children under-five need access to healthcare, including immunization and essential lifesaving services. Health care systems in Sudan have been affected negatively by protracted conflict, droughts, floods, and internal displacements. There are also prevalent diseases that affect the health status of people in Sudan, such as measles, hepatitis E, and acute watery diarrhoea (AWD). In June 2017, Sudan experienced an AWD outbreak which affected at least 23,000 people and caused up to 820 deaths (ACAPS Briefing Note: Sudan 16 June 2017). The most affected states were Gedarif, White Nile, Khartoum, Sennar, River Nile, North Kordofan, and Gezira.

The internal conflicts and displacements have also limited the ability of displaced populations to access and afford health services especially in Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile states. Humanitarian funding to the health sector has been limited. UN-OCHA (February 2018) estimates that 36% of Primary Health Care (PHC) units are not fully functional and only 24% of functional PHCs offer the complete service that PHCs are supposed to provide due to limited infrastructure and staff shortages.

The National Society health and care services are designed to response to the urgent health needs of vulnerable people and contribute to local community resilience. The National Society programmes are in line with Sustainable Development
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all. This will continue through the implementation of a long-term systematic community-based approach. The National Community Health Volunteers Programme (NCHVP) is a community-based programme implemented by the National Society since 2007 to empower the capacity of the local communities in eleven states in Sudan to build community resilience to disasters. This will be accomplished by addressing the major health concerns of the local communities and increasing their knowledge and first aid skills to respond to health emergencies. This is planned to be achieved by establishing community first aid posts/units and by training volunteers and community members on first aid and on the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) approach. This community-based health programme also intends to increase community awareness of disease prevention and health risk reduction by training National Society volunteers on the global Red Cross and Red Crescent initiative on Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA), through which National Society volunteers will be able to contribute to positive behavioural change within their own communities (Africa Roadmap). Awareness of health education messages will be raised through household visits by volunteers. The National Society, in partnership with the IFRC, will seek to improve child health at the community level by raising household

| PEOPLE REACHED BY THE NATIONAL SOCIETY HEALTH PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES | 460,000 |
| PEOPLE REACHED BY THE NATIONAL SOCIETY SERVICES TO REDUCE RELEVANT HEALTH RISKS | 460,000 |
| PEOPLE REACHED WITH LONG TERM HEALTH CARE SUPPORT | 460,000 |
| HEALTH CARE FACILITIES REHABILITATED AND EQUIPPED | 3 |
| HOUSEHOLDS REACHED BY HEALTH VOLUNTEERS | 87,000 |
| COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION SESSIONS CONDUCTED | 1,000 |
| NATIONAL SOCIETY CONTINGENCY PLAN TO RESPOND TO EPIDEMICS AND PANDEMICS IN PLACE | 1 |
awareness on vaccine preventable diseases and encourage parents to vaccinate children under the age of 5. Children of school age will also be targeted through health education sessions that will be conducted in schools.

This plan will ensure that the National Society capacity to implement these activities is sustained through active participation of non-National Society staff in the governance of the NCHVP activities. To achieve these results, project activities will be conducted by eighteen field officers deployed in eleven branches who are supported by a programme coordinator and an assistant at headquarters. Additionally, technical support for the programme planning, implementation and monitoring will be drawn from the IFRC in Sudan and regional offices.

### Outcome

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Vulnerables</strong></th>
<th><strong>Improved through increased access to appropriate health services</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- **People Reached with Psychosocial Support (PSS)**: 10,000
- **People Provided with Clinical Health Care Services During Emergencies**: 18,000
- **People Reached Through the National Society Immunization Activities**: 460,000
- **People Trained by the National Society in First Aid**: 500
- **Volunteers Trained by the National Society in Epidemic Control**: 4,000
- **National Society is Implementing the Reach Approach to Address Health Needs in Complex Settings**
- **National Society Has 1 Active Outreach Plan in Place to Reach Marginalised People**
**AREA OF FOCUS**

**WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE**

UN-OCHA (February 2018) estimates that 4.9 million people in Sudan do not have access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities. The limited access to water and sanitation facilities is also contributing to poor health among vulnerable people. Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile are the most affected.

The inadequate water and sanitation systems in refugee camps and host communities have resulted in a high frequency of vector and water borne diseases and are one of the major underlying causes of child malnutrition and illnesses. Under-nutrition also increases susceptibility to diarrhoea.

The allocation of time slots for collecting water by refugees and host communities from the River Nile - two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening - appears inadequate and has resulted in a minimum standard of consumption for households. Women and children may travel up to 1.5 kilometres to collect water, which can pose safety risks, including threats of sexual violence. As a result, both refugee and host communities are likely to seek alternative solutions and potentially resort to unclean water sources, which in turn exposes the population to water borne diseases.

The sanitation situation is poor in many parts of the affected areas. The SRCS/IFRC needs assessment (July 2018) notes that 29% of the Sudanese population practice open defecation. In refugee camps and host communities open defecation is particularly high among children. For example, at Khor Alwaral refugee camp the ratio of latrine: people is 1:50, far below the SPHERE standards of 1:20.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSEHOLDS PROVIDED WITH SAFE WATER SERVICES THAT MEET AGREED STANDARDS</th>
<th>600,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE ACCESSING SAFE WATER FROM WATER POINTS</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE REACHED THROUGH WATER TRUCKING</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATER POINTS REHABILITATED AND FUNCTIONING</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW WATER POINTS ESTABLISHED</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH KNOWLEDGE ON AND ACCESS TO IMPROVED EXCRETA DISPOSAL</td>
<td>41,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE WITH ACCESS TO COMMUNAL LATRINES</td>
<td>16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE WITH ACCESS TO HOUSEHOLD LATRINES</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The National Society, in partnership with UNHCR, has been engaged in water, sanitation and hygiene activities in White Nile state, including the management of three water facilities in the Um Sangour and Dabat Bosin camps to maintain clean and safe water supplies for South Sudanese refugees. As per SRCS/UNHCR 2017 report, activities included the provision of potable water through water trucking in five camps, procurement and distribution of water treatment chemicals (aluminium sulphate and chlorine), construction of six emergency latrine blocks and water stands, and re-excavation of existing drainage trenches to avoid localized flooding. The National Society seeks to continue to increase in sanitation coverage.

The National Society will also support water, sanitation and hygiene needs in nine health facilities. Sustainable water provision will be implemented through activities such as the rehabilitation and establishment of new waterpoints. Improving sanitation through the construction of latrines to end open defecation is intended to contribute to the provision of clean water. The National Society will also strengthen and enhance community participation in health and hygiene programmes through its volunteers and staff. Successful interventions, such as management of water supplies will be documented and shared for replication in similar operations across Sudan.

| **Outcome** | **Vulnerable people have increased access to appropriate and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services** |
| **Communal Latrines Constructed** | 200 |
| **-households reached with key messages to promote personal and community hygiene** | 50,000 |
| **People have access to sanitation facilities** | 41,000 |
| **Emergency Latrines Constructed** | 1,000 |
| **Households** | **5,000** |
| **Wash Kits are prepositioned** | 2 |
| **Hygiene Awareness Sessions Have Been Conducted** | 240 |
| **National Society Staff Have Been Trained by the IFRC** | 10 |
| **Volunteers Have Been Trained on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene** | 200 |
Sudan is located within the Horn of Africa’s large, complex and constantly evolving migration routes. It is a country of origin, transit country and host country for migrants and refugees from Central Africa Republic, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen. According to OCHA, the country is “both a temporary and a long-term host to a diversity of refugees, asylum seekers and other persons of concern”. Along these migratory routes, refugees and asylum-seekers are exposed to various forms of exploitation. According to the Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS), migrants face numerous challenges that can result in human rights violations, including human trafficking, detention, sexual exploitation, forced labour and limited access to livelihoods and health services. Darfur has 1.6 million people living in camps. According to OCHA, around 200,000 people are estimated to have arrived from South Sudan. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in October 2016, 47% of 3,000 migrants interviewed by IOM had been forced to work or perform activities against their will.
The proposed IFRC operation therefore includes campaigns to raise awareness among migrants and host communities on the risk of irregular migration in line with Sustainable Development Goal 11, which calls on all to make cities and human settlements inclusive and safe. The support will help build the capacity of National Society staff and volunteers to provide psychosocial support to people affected by trafficking and smuggling and provide them with protection options and legal assistance. The IFRC and the National Society will engage in humanitarian assistance to asylum seekers, refugees, and host communities in eastern Sudan.

The National Society will provide shelter for affected people, including safe houses in Kassala state in eastern Sudan where humanitarian assistance will be able to be provided, as well as protection from further exploitation, detention and deportation. The National Society will also address trafficking and smuggling in Kassala. It will target people in detention centres and safe houses, improving the identification of affected people and survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), while facilitating their access to health, psychosocial, mental health and legal support and services.

IFRC will also focus on providing protection and other assistance to vulnerable migrants and people affected by trafficking in Kassala through the safe shelter project.
STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SOCIETY CAPACITIES

The National Society plans to strengthen operational capacity of volunteers to better deliver humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction activities. Therefore, the IFRC will work with the National Society to raise funds and mobilise resources, coordinate outreach to internal and external expertise, and access to knowledge and networking with global volunteers (e.g., the IFRC Fednet and global networks) especially by facilitating access to partners within the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other non-movement partners.

The IFRC Country Office will also help the National Society collect, document and share volunteer success stories, knowledge, best practices and lessons among the National Society branches as well as sharing them within the wider Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. It will also conduct an annual youth and volunteer national conference to enhance the volunteer networking in Sudan. The main activities will include conducting the volunteer value survey (VIVA study) and launching the listening study on volunteering in conflict and emergency situations (VICE study) during the annual youth and volunteers national conference.

The volunteers’ unit intends to extend it is partnerships and networking by participating in global youth and volunteer events such as conferences, forums, seminars and workshops. With technical support from the IFRC Africa Regional Office and Country Cluster Support Teams (CCST), National Society volunteers and staff will participate in coffee trail and the IFRC youth group on Facebook to remain ready for mobilisation and deployment to emergency operations and disaster risk reduction initiatives. Together, the IFRC Country Office, the ICRC and the National Society will provide technical support to volunteer development office and orientation meetings with partner national societies regarding volunteer development in Sudan.

In line with the Africa Roadmap and PAC commitments, the IFRC Country Office will support the National Society to assess its capacity through the OCAC process. The National Society has already completed the BOCA process and is in the process of addressing the findings from the assessment. The National Society will also update its youth policy and enhance the participation of youths in the National Society governance in line with the PAC priorities.

The National Society responds repeatedly to flood disasters that occur every year between July and September. To ensure a quality and timely response the National Society will therefore enhance volunteer retention by reviewing and updating the volunteer manual, increasing volunteer capacities through training in disaster risk reduction, VCA and shelter programming. The National Society will also train its emergency response teams in at-risk locations to enhance its surge capacity. The IFRC Country Office will continue to support National Society to establish beneficiary feedback mechanisms through the Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) team. The IFRC Country Office will also work with the National Society to train staff and volunteers on CEA as well as provide it with support to integrate accountability and feedback systems across all its programmes.
The NS is also committed to strengthening other national societies within the region by sharing its experiences of working on migration issues. The National Society will work with the IFRC Country Office to establish a Regional Migration Network and will also consider hosting one of the meetings. Specifically, the IFRC and National Society will:

**STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

**ENSURE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

The IFRC has supported the National Society through the DREF and Emergency Appeals to respond to 8 flood response operations in the last 10 years, as well as complex emergencies including population movements. However, due to the recurring nature of flood disasters in Sudan, it may no longer be possible to use the DREF. It is therefore critical that IFRC helps the National Society to explore alternative options. According to the Africa Roadmap, the IFRC will need to establish stockpiles in the region to support the response to disasters, use its surge capacity to deploy personnel to help the National Society and enhance its preparedness strategy and capacity through development of response protocols, SOPs and early warning/early action systems.

Sudan is also a priority for IFRC support on the implementation of migration programmes. An assessment and analysis of the context in Sudan will inform the support IFRC Country Office can provide. The IFRC will also use its coordination mandate to enhance support to the National Society from partners, to ensure there is no duplication and overlapping of efforts.

The IFRC will, through the Africa Regional Office, East Africa Cluster and Sudan Office, ensure effective operational, technical and coordination support for the National Society to launch emergency response operations. The IFRC Country Office will also ensure the rapid deployment of surge capacity to Sudan on the request of the National Society and the availability of technical staff in priority areas identified by the National Society including National Society development, disaster management, livelihoods, water, sanitation and hygiene and health to identify capacity gaps, assess the needs of vulnerable groups and design appropriate response operations. The IFRC Country Office will also facilitate peer-to-peer support and collaboration between the Sudanese Red Crescent Society and other National Societies in the region with similar operations, as well as provide sufficient technical capacity to share best practices.

The East Africa cluster has established and is chairing a cash working group. The IFRC will facilitate the National Society’s membership and provide it with guidance on cash-based programming. It will also work with the National Society to
conduct an institutional capacity assessment after which they will work together to develop a capacity building programme on cash-based interventions. The IFRC will train National Society staff in market assessments, provide it with support to develop cash-based programming SOPs and to increase the use of cash in disaster response. The IFRC will therefore support the National Society to develop a flood preparedness plan which will include training staff and volunteers in early warning early action, stock-piling, and the use of cash in response option. The IFRC will also look at opportunities to support the National Society in forecast-based financing.

The IFRC Regional Office for Africa, together with African National Societies (ANSs), Partner National Societies and the ICRC promotes a culture to share knowledge and best practices and shared leadership through the Africa Disaster Management Advisory Group (ADMAG). The ADMAG provides a platform for ANSs and other Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners to engage in open dialogue on contemporary issues and to inform IFRC secretariat guidelines, procedures and policies on the Africa context, and for the IFRC and ICRC to promote SMCC (Strengthening Movement Coordination and Collaboration) to support ANSs in joint initiatives, such as Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement-wide contingency plans. Therefore, through this plan, the National Society will actively engage in the ADMAG plan and opportunities for exchange of knowledge. This will provide opportunities to position the National Society in a larger humanitarian architecture, provide guidance on principled approaches and identify value propositions for potential collaboration with government and non-Movement partners. Under the guidance and leadership of the Regional Disaster Law Programme unit, the National Society will support the government to develop its disaster and disaster risk reduction laws, policies and guidelines.
INFLUENCE OTHERS AS LEADING STRATEGIC PARTNERS

The National Society does not have an up to date resource mobilisation strategy, nor sufficient resource mobilisation capacity. National Society programmes are mainly dependent on external funding from Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners, international donors and governments. This is not in line with the commitment made by African National Societies during the Pan Africa Conference to secure at least 50% of National Society funding domestically. The IFRC Partnership and Resource Development (PRD) department will therefore support the National Society to enhance and increase its resource mobilisation capacity to achieve this goal.

The commitments made to localise resources at the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016, and in The Grand Bargain will be realized through IFRC Country Office support to the development of a resource mobilisation strategy, and the provision of relevant staff training. The IFRC Country Office, in line with the Africa Roadmap, will explore opportunities to support the National Society to mobilise funding for humanitarian response through long-term emergency operations outside of emergency appeals and DREFs.

The IFRC will support the National Society to mainstream CEA across all programmes.

IFRC regional surge and institutional preparedness capacity will be mobilised to support large-scale emergency operations. Support will also be provided to carry-out needs assessments, lessons learned reviews, and evaluations to inform national society operational strategies.

In line with the PAC commitments, the National Society’s PMER systems will be strengthened through training in data collection, and by putting the PMER manual into operation to encourage the documentation of successes and enhance learning from operations. The IFRC Country Office will facilitate peer-to-peer support across the region to enhance sharing.

THE IFRC SECRETARIAT AND THE NATIONAL SOCIETY INFLUENCE DECISIONS AT LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS THAT AFFECT THE MOST VULNERABLE
The National Society does not have a Risk Management Framework and has not provided data through the annual reports to the Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System (FDRS) consistently. The IFRC does not have a Status Agreement with the Government of Sudan. This has limited its capacity to deploy sufficient human resources to Sudan in support of the National Society, and to enhance coordination between Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners in Sudan.

The limited presence of the IFRC in Sudan has been highlighted as a key constraint by the Partner National Societies. They have identified a gap in coordination, the provision of a security framework and the essential support services that the Partner National Societies require.
ENDNOTES

1  CIA World Factbook, 17 October 2018
2  62.9 years for males and 66.1 years for females according to the latest data for the year 2016 from the World Bank
3  “Soil conservation and land reclamation in the Sudan”, United Nations University, 26 June 2010.
4  Humanitarian Needs Overview, February 2018, UN OCHA
5  SRCS/IFRC South Sudanese Refugees in White Nile Needs Assessment report, July 2018
6  http://ifrcgo.org/africa/profile.html#SDN
7  Sudan 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview, OCHA, February 2018
8  Briefing Note – Mixed Migration from the Horn of Africa via Egypt to Europe, ACAPS, December 2016
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