



Sudan Red Crescent Society Volunteer providing First Aid to a wounded civilian, Khartoum Source: Sudan Red Crescent Society.

Appeal No: MDRSD033	Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 30 million¹	
Glide No:	People [affected/at risk]: 9 million people	People to be assisted: 200,000 people
DREF allocation: CHF 1 million	Appeal launched: 01/05/2023	Appeal ends: 31/12/2024

This Emergency Appeal focuses on support to Sudan Red Crescent Society (SRCS) to scale-up their local, life-saving action in the country, in strict collaboration and coordination with Movement Partners. At the time of this Emergency Appeal, the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) supports Red Cross Red Crescent Societies in neighboring countries. IFRC and National Societies will continue to monitor this situation and may opt for the inclusion of specific neighbouring countries in this Emergency Appeal if the situation demands it.

¹ Breakdown of respective Secretariat and Federation-wide funding requirements will be CHF 20m (Secretariat) and CHF 10m (Federation-wide)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In the early morning of Saturday, 15 April 2023, Khartoum woke up to the sound of gunfire and explosions. This was the first time that the capital city of Sudan, home to 6 million people, was at the epicentre of a fierce conflict between two powerful groups, the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

Clashes broke out in different areas of the country and the relentless urban conflict has now taken at least 459² lives, many of them civilians, and injured over 5,000 people.

Millions of civilians caught in the crossfire have been in lockdown for nearly two weeks, and many have run out of basic supplies like food, water, and medicine, having instead to borrow them or take the risk of fleeing through extremely dangerous routes.

The conflict has also taken a significant toll on public infrastructure, with the destruction of hospitals and health facilities, leaving only 16 percent³ of these facilities operating regularly in Khartoum. Residential buildings, water infrastructure, and energy infrastructure have been damaged as well, with continued disruption of service, while communications and internet connectivity have also been compromised. Both private and public facilities have been ransacked, and some burnt down, including on the premises of SRCS.

The latest ceasefire has partially held, allowing evacuations to take place and some families to restock. However, food and water shortages, and lack of fuel, are leading to sharp increases in the cost of these basic commodities, while the price of transportation out of conflict areas is unaffordable for many. Families are prioritising the evacuation of women and children, who are exposed to heightened risks including sexual and gender-based violence, as

reported by women-led organisations in Sudan⁴.

After 15 days of uninterrupted fighting, the full extent of the humanitarian situation is yet to be determined, but to date this conflict has put at least 9 million Sudanese, chiefly those living near the clashes, under severe hardship, unable to access emergency healthcare or medicines for those suffering from chronic conditions. The health facilities that remain functional lack staff and equipment, and the available blood is at risk due to power cuts in the cold chain. Women who are about to give birth cannot access ante-natal care and may be at risk of delivering without medical supervision. Lack of access to potable water is also leading people to seek water from the Nile, which could lead to a spike in diarrhoeal diseases, and will have repercussions on the nutrition status of children and pregnant and lactating women.

Widespread displacement is ongoing, mainly in Khartoum, Northern State, North Kordofan, North Darfur, West Darfur, and South Darfur. There are chaotic scenes in Port Sudan and Wadi Halfa bordering Egypt, with people stranded for several days at a time attempting to leave the country. Displacement has also affected refugees living in Sudan, with many sheltering in crowded camps in White Nile State, Gedaref, and Kassala. People are also fleeing to neighbouring countries, including Chad, Egypt, South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Central African Republic (CAR).

Despite this challenging environment, the Sudan Red Crescent Society (SRCS) has been on the ground since day one, supporting evacuations and reuniting families, providing first aid to the wounded and psychological support, as well as supporting health facilities and Restoring Family Links services in 15 locations. This Emergency Appeal will support their staff and volunteers to continue carrying out essential humanitarian work to support the

² WHO, 24.04.2023

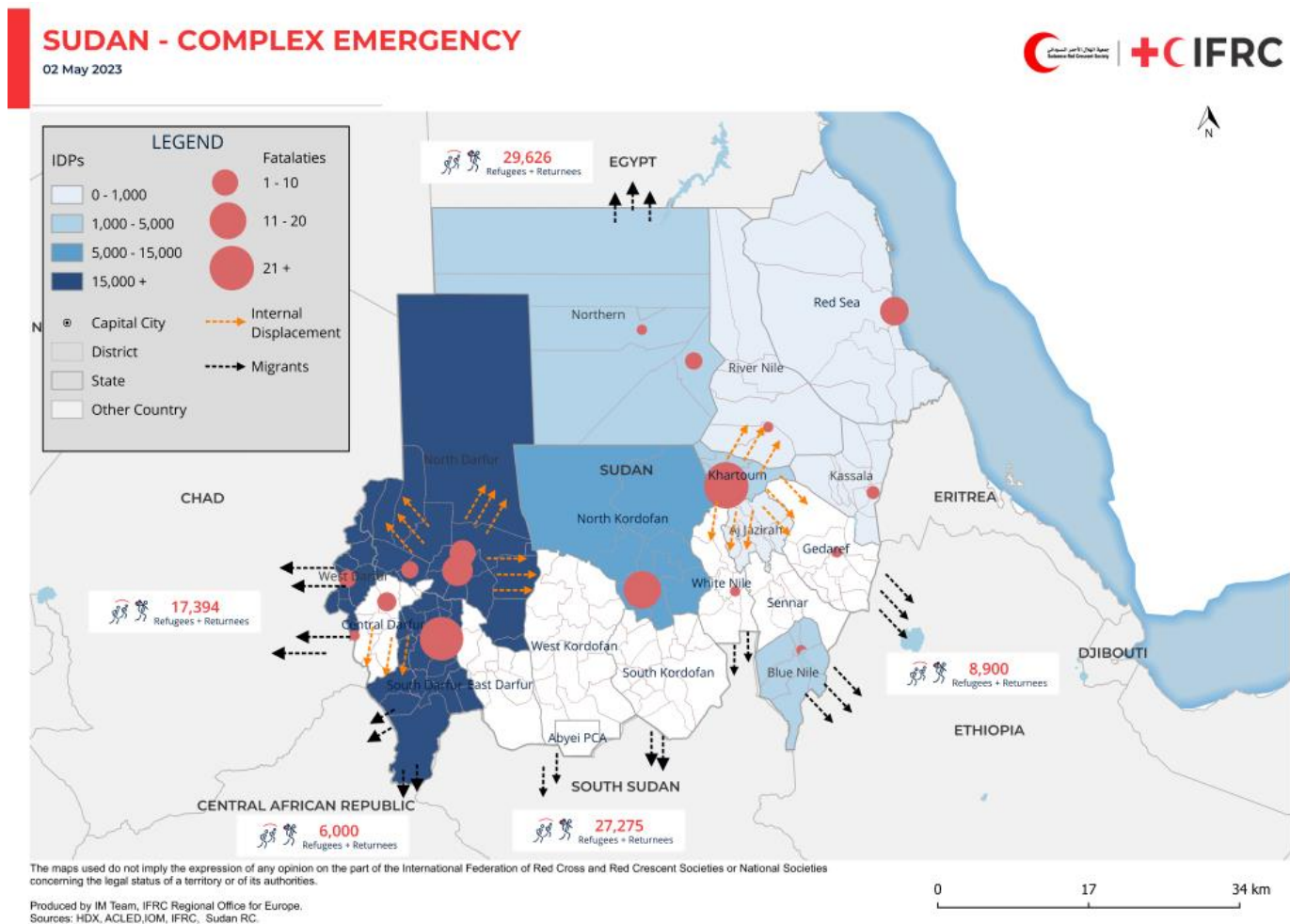
³ WHO, 26.04.2023

⁴ OCHA Sitrep, 29.04.2023

most affected. Humanitarian need across Sudan was already at record levels before April 2023, with 15.8 million people in need ⁵, including 3.7 million Internal Displacement Populations (IDPs)⁶ and 1.1 million refugees⁷,

and will now increase further as projections for how the current conflict will evolve remain unclear.

TARGETING



The conflict is taking place in densely populated urban areas in Khartoum, Khartoum North and Omdurman (Khartoum State), Merowe (Northern State), El Obeid (North Kordofan), Nyala (South Darfur), Al Fasher (North Darfur), Al Geneina (West Darfur), Zalingi (Central Darfur) and Gedaref. Although the number of people indirectly impacted by the conflict is much larger, an estimated 9 million people are living in very close proximity to battles, at high risk of stray bullets and shelling within residential areas. The majority of residents remain stranded and are unable to flee to safer areas, due to ongoing fighting, lack of financial means or simply attempting to maintain their property, assets, and livelihoods. After several days, people trapped in conflict areas are running out of survival means and are being forced to take risks to make ends meet. Many families have had to make the hard choice to evacuate children and youth, accompanied by their mothers. In some instances, evacuation buses have been attacked, and there are reports of increased sexual violence against people on the move.

According to Red Cross Red Crescent Societies' reports, at least 150,000 people have managed to

⁵ Humanitarian Needs Overview, Sudan, December 2022

⁷ UNHCR, February 2023

⁶ UNHCR, July 2022

escape to safer areas inside Sudan and across borders to Chad (17,394 people), to Egypt (29,626 people), South Sudan (27,275), Ethiopia (8,500 people) and to Central African Republic (6,000 people). Many are still stranded at the border with Egypt, South Sudan, and Ethiopia as well, and also at other evacuation points such as Port Sudan. Yet the bulk of displaced people remains within Sudan, closer to their homes, either with families or relatives or in centres improvised to receive the influx of people, such as those supported by the Sudan Red Crescent Society. People arrive at their destinations physically and psychologically exhausted, sometimes severely injured, without food, water, or shelter, and with no means to cover the cost of basic necessities. Many are anxious for news from their beloved ones and are in urgent need of communicating with their families. This situation could last for several more days, weeks, or even longer until a solution is found, while the risks of adopting negative survival coping mechanisms will increase. Of particular concern are women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and those in need of special attention.

The situation is also extremely challenging for the hundreds of thousands of refugees already living in Sudan, who do not have any support networks and who will now be displaced a second time, likely to crowded camps established along the borders with Ethiopia, Eritrea, and South Sudan. Any humanitarian operation conducted will thus have to take into consideration the pre-existing humanitarian situation of those that were already extremely vulnerable. Of the 15.8 million people in need, about 11 million have life-threatening needs related to critical physical and mental well-being. This was a 21 percent increase compared to 2022.

The situation of this pre-existing vulnerable population must be included in this response, considering the reduction of assistance caused by the conflict, and the exponential increase in prices of basic commodities, otherwise risking a downward spiral of the situation for many millions.

This Emergency Appeal will provide the means for SRCS to assist 200,000 people with the following priority situations:

- Assist civilians stranded in at-risk locations, wounded or injured by the fighting, with evacuation, ambulance, and first aid services. This activity will be closely coordinated between SRCS and ICRC for safe access and protection.
- Provide emergency relief assistance via humanitarian service points along displacement routes, transit areas such as border crossings, or areas of arrival for displaced persons, with a particular focus on women, children, the elderly, and people with specific needs, including their protection.
- Provide humanitarian assistance to displaced people and their hosts in camps or non-camp settings, including the provision of shelter and basic needs, preferably through Cash & Voucher Assistance as well as Restoring Family Links.
- Uphold existing humanitarian services provided to extremely vulnerable people, with the inclusion of new populations in SRCS programmes as gaps are identified.

PLANNED OPERATIONS


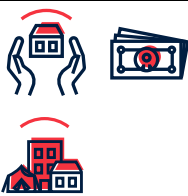
Through this Emergency Appeal, IFRC will support SRCS in responding to the direct impacts of the ongoing conflict in Sudan. The response prioritises life-saving, local humanitarian services for the different target groups, via the provision of (1) emergency first aid, medical services, whether ambulance or in health facilities, and psychological support, (2) establishing humanitarian service



points (HSP) where displaced populations can access a wide range of humanitarian support and services, regardless of their status and wherever they are on their journeys to ensure that the needs of the separated, missing and deceased and their families are addressed, (3) tailored basic needs support, including promoting access to food, safe water, hygiene, non-food items, emergency shelter, and sanitation, preferably via cash and voucher assistance or in-kind if the former is not feasible or safe.

Other core components of the response are child protection, prevention from gender-based violence and/or any other form of sexual abuse and exploitation, and the duty of care and security for field actions. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) in emergencies will be streamlined in needs assessment and feedback systems, allowing affected populations to participate in the decisions that primarily concern them, ensuring that assistance does not generate additional risks or increase harm to people.

Given the destruction and looting of SRCS sites across different branches and warehouses, a significant focus of IFRC support will also be to restore and increase the operational capabilities of the SRCS, to be able to continue providing localised and community-based humanitarian services where needed.

The operations and activities planned in this Emergency Appeal are part of a Movement-wide coordinated action with ICRC and participating National Societies, under one single operational plan led by SRCS.

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Health & Care including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search & Rescue: evacuate the stranded and wounded from conflict areas via ambulance services • first aid and psychological support provided to those affected • support to hospitals and health facilities by integrating trained volunteers into medical teams, as well as assisting facilities with medical equipment • start blood donation campaigns, including the necessary materials and cold chain • set-up dead body management teams • health promotion awareness sessions in camp and non-camp settings • set-up latrines and mobile toilets at border crossings and/or accommodation centres
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Integrated assistance <i>(Shelter, Livelihoods, and Multi-purpose Cash)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of multi-purpose cash to displaced families for up to six months, covering basic needs via mobile transfers, or • where necessary, in-kind food, water, hygiene, and NFIs • in collective accommodation sites, emergency shelters, sanitation, and hygiene as required

 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p>Protection and Prevention (<i>Protection, Gender, and Inclusion [PGI], Community Engagement and Accountability [CEA], Migration</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> humanitarian service points where migrants can access a wide range of services, such as emergency health and first aid, food, water, psychological support services (PSS) counselling communication, and referrals, regardless of their status Restoring Family Links services are provided to ensure that the needs of the separated, missing, deceased, and their families are adequately and efficiently addressed. child-friendly spaces can be set up adjacent to humanitarian service points, identification of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) with referral services PGI minimum standards applied to outreach activities in communities as well as awareness-raising sessions and materials community engagement activities will be mainstreamed in assessments and design of operations, including the set-up of accessible feedback systems
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Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

Coordination and partnerships



Coordination with key stakeholders will be strengthened: the High Committee for Emergency Health, the Humanitarian Aid Commission, and the Higher Council of Civil Defence, as well as United Nations agencies and NGOs, following the existing humanitarian coordination mechanisms. The focus of coordination and humanitarian diplomacy efforts will be on guarantees of safe access, and protection of humanitarian personnel, volunteers, facilities, and goods. The action will facilitate engagement and coordination with Partner National Societies (PNS) and the ICRC in the design of the response, leveraging the expertise and resources available through a Red Pillar approach, and ensuring alignment with relevant external actors, including the Government's policies and programmes, development actors, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Regarding the RCRC Movement, coordination takes place at country and regional levels through different structures, following the Strengthen Movement Coordination and Cooperation mechanisms.

IFRC Secretariat services



The IFRC Secretariat will provide services and support to SRCS and PNSs present in the response, facilitating an effective Federation-wide response, with support from the Khartoum Cluster Delegation and Africa Regional Office. IFRC, together with Movement Partners will support SRCS in establishing and reinforcing the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), including its business continuity and risk management plans, and will offer technical expertise in emergency health, migration, protection, and CEA. This may entail the deployment of critical functions as agreed with the National Society and Movement partners. Beyond that, IFRC will support resource mobilisation, external communications, and coordination with other international organisations. Other areas of support include planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER) and information management.



National Society Strengthening

Given the impact that the conflict has had on SRCS operations, restoring and increasing operational capacity at the headquarters and branch level will be a core component of this Emergency Appeal. This will include support to set up a temporary base, including restoring its Emergency Operation Centre and Emergency Rooms, to re-establish communication, repairing and increasing the capacity of warehouses, replenishing humanitarian stocks, and increasing fleet capacity, including vehicles, ambulances, and trucks. This will include support to staff and volunteers by ensuring appropriate equipment and duty of care, including joint trainings with Movement components in protection and safer access.

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the coming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide approach, which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

Sudanese Red Crescent Society



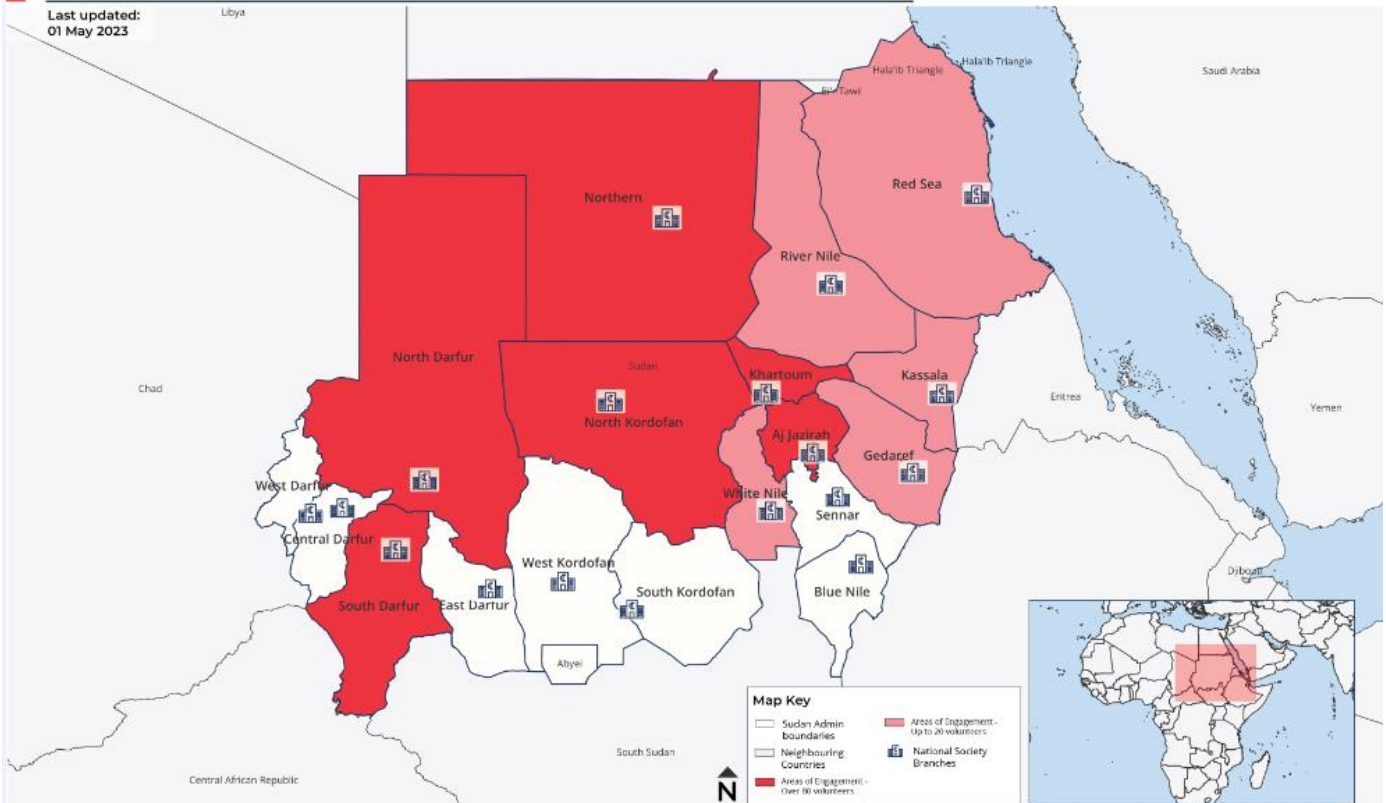
Core areas of operation	
Number of staff:	103
Number of volunteers:	40,000
Number of branches	18

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) was the first voluntary society in Sudan. It was established by Cabinet Resolution No. 869, on March 26, 1956. This was followed by the Republic of Sudan signing the Geneva Convention in October 1957 whereby SRCS was accredited as a member of the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. SRCS is committed to the seven basic principles of the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and assists those in need with impartiality and without discrimination.

Presence and Geographical Areas of Engagement Sudan | Internal Conflict



Last updated:
01 May 2023



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.
Data sources: Humanitarian Data Exchange, Sudanese Red Crescent Society, IFRC.
Produced by Information Management team – IFRC Europe.

SRCS is present across the country with branches in each of the 18 states and a robust network of 40,000 registered local volunteers, including National and Branch Disaster Response Teams (NDRT/BDRTs) and Emergency Action Teams (EATs), where many are active in hard-to-reach communities. Under the framework of this Federation-wide Emergency Appeal, SRCS will initially deploy 969 frontline volunteers, who will deliver the proposed activities with the support of SRCS emergency teams and staff experts, backed up by the Emergency Operations Centre at HQ level and Emergency Rooms at Branch Level. The majority of volunteers have been deployed in Khartoum State (254), followed by South Darfur (150) Northern State (130), North Darfur (115), North Kordofan (100), and Gezira (80). Other branches maintain readiness activities with up to 20 volunteers active per branch. As the situation evolves, additional volunteers may be involved in this response across the different branches.

It must be emphasised that SRCS is the lead in this response and convenor⁸ of the Movement components present in Sudan. ICRC, as co-convenor, and the IFRC Secretariat, will reinforce this leadership and support internal and external coordination functions. In addition to the Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement partners, SRCS partners with the Sudanese Government, United Nations organisations, and other local and international non-governmental organisations.

⁸ The Movement Coordination for Collective Impact Agreement ([Seville Agreement 2.0](#)) was adopted at the 2022 Council of Delegates and sets out the coordination responsibilities for the components of the **International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement**.

IFRC membership coordination

The IFRC Secretariat provides technical and financial support to SRCS through the IFRC Sudan and Eritrea Country Cluster Delegation based in Khartoum, and through the Regional Office for Africa, based in Nairobi. There are eight Participating National Societies (PNSs) in-country that have continued providing bilateral support to SRCS during the emergency phase. These are Danish Red Cross (DRCS), German Red Cross (GRCS), Netherlands Red Cross (NLRC), Qatar Red Crescent (QRCS), Spanish Red Cross (SRCS), Swedish Red Cross (SRCS), Swiss Red Cross (SwissRC) and Turkish Red Crescent (TRCS). Most of its international staff have been evacuated from the country, with support from ICRC. However, they continue to attend daily online Movement coordination meetings, and in some cases are reassessing the possibility of returning to Sudan as security conditions permit. IFRC will facilitate and coordinate PNSs' multilateral and bilateral engagement and support to SRCS via this Emergency Appeal, including reinforcement of technical expertise, material, and financial resources, streamlining its use through a “best-positioned partner” approach.

An Information Management system for tracking support to SRCS will include a Sudan Complex Emergency page on the [IFRC GO platform](#), which traces and illustrates the Federation-wide approach and reach. IFRC will coordinate with partners to collect and present the responses.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

The foundations of Movement coordination rest on a constructive relationship established and nurtured by the Movement components present in Sudan for several decades. This has permitted the establishment of seamless communication and coordination, even in challenging times for SRCS. There are clear lines of communication between IFRC and ICRC at the country level and these are now being reinforced at the regional level for this specific crisis. A “mini-summit” took place remotely, which triggered the development of a Movement joint statement on the response to the armed conflict in Sudan. A second summit is planned to agree on Movement operational plans currently being developed by SRCS, ICRC, and IFRC. This document will guide the Movement for a well-coordinated use of its capacities. Other SMCC structures have been agreed upon, which will cover joint communications/Humanitarian Diplomacy, Information Management, and technical sectors.

External coordination

At the national level, the Higher Committee for Emergency Health, the Humanitarian Aid Commission, and the Higher Council of Civil Defence are the authorities who normally oversee the response to disasters and crises. These structures are replicated at the state level, working jointly with local governments. United Nations agencies and NGOs are key players in the response as well. Response operations will be coordinated through the relevant coordination mechanisms, including the Humanitarian Country Team, Inter-Agency and Inter-Sector participants, as well as sector-specific clusters.

After 31 December 2024, response activities to this crisis will continue under the IFRC Sudan Country Plan for 2025. IFRC Country Plans show an integrated view of ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs of the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country's actions. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in due time, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation, please contact:

At the National Society

- **Secretary-General:** Aida Sayed. Aida.sayed@srcs.sd sgoffice@srcs.sd
- **Operational Coordination:** Hassan Shatta, hassan.shatta@srcs.sd, and Rahama Ibrahim, rahama@srcs.sd

At the IFRC

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa:** Rui Alberto Oliveira, Lead, Preparedness & Response, rui.oliveira@ifrc.org +254 780 422276
- **IFRC Country Cluster Delegation: Farid** Abdulkadir Aiywar, Head of Delegation, farid.aiywar@ifrc.org +249 90 0908916
- **IFRC Geneva:** Santiago Luengo, Senior Officer, Operations Coordination, Santiago.luengo@ifrc.org, +41 79 124 4052

For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Africa** Louise Daintrey; Head of Strategic Engagement and Partnerships; Email: louise.daintrey@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilisation table support:

- **IFRC Africa Regional Office for Logistics Unit:** Rishi Ramrakha, Head of Africa Regional Logistics Unit; Email: rishi.ramrakha@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting enquiries):

- **IFRC Africa Regional Office:** Beatrice Atieno Okeyo, Regional Head PMER, and Quality Assurance; email: beatrice.okeyo@ifrc.org

Reference



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