

Sudan



International Medical Corps has worked throughout Sudan's Darfur region since 2004, providing healthcare, nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) interventions in five states.

The ongoing humanitarian crisis has uprooted millions of people, disrupted fragile healthcare systems and prevented families from returning to their homes. Despite limited humanitarian access and chronic instability, International Medical Corps provides emergency medical relief to more than 2 million people per year in Blue Nile, Central Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan and West Darfur.

Once the largest and one of the most geographically diverse nations in Africa, Sudan split into two separate countries in July 2011, after the people of the south voted for independence.

Today, tribal conflict and intercommunal violence continue to severely affect civilians, especially women and children. Millions remain in displacement camps, relying almost entirely on humanitarian aid for essential services, while funding constraints continue to affect the ongoing humanitarian response.

In 2020, Sudan's humanitarian landscape was defined by three major issues: tribal conflict, internal displacement of approximately 100,000 people and the COVID-19 pandemic. Sudan also faces recurrent outbreaks of measles, acute watery diarrhea, malaria and many other infectious diseases. Its health system has remained significantly underfunded, compromising its ability to control disease epidemics and provide quality health services. Amid these challenges, International Medical Corps provides emergency medical relief to more than 2 million people per year in Sudan in five states: Blue Nile, Central Darfur, South Darfur, South Kordofan and West Darfur.



With close to 3 million refugees and IDPs, and 9.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, Sudan requires significant support. According to the United Nations' 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan for Sudan, an estimated \$1.3 billion in funding is needed to provide necessary resources to vulnerable and suffering populations.

HEALTH

International Medical Corps currently supports and operates in 86 health facilities across Sudan, delivering essential health services, strengthening health systems and providing resources to deploy skilled health workers to those facilities. Essential health services include treatment and prevention of disease, reproductive healthcare, health education, immunization, child healthcare and surveillance, and referrals to emergency- and secondary-level health services, including surgery and obstetric care. Reproductive health services include prenatal care, clean and safe deliveries by skilled birth attendants, postnatal and newborn care, and family planning. For children, we provide integrated management of childhood illnesses, immunizations and nutrition screening.

In 2020, International Medical Corps reached an estimated 1.5 million Sudanese with our integrated health, WASH and nutrition programs. We provided medical consultations to nearly 1.2 million people. We treated thousands of patients for acute respiratory infections, diarrhea and malaria, which continue to be the leading causes of morbidities in our project areas.

International Medical Corps also reached women with comprehensive reproductive health services: 67,692 women received antenatal care, 23,345 deliveries were assisted by skilled healthcare personnel and 20,013 women received postnatal care. In addition, we immunized 73,080 children, including 61,470 children vaccinated against measles.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Many communities in Sudan experience shortages in water quality and quantity. Influxes in refugee populations frequently strain already fragile water-collection and sanitation systems in host communities and camps. By expanding access to clean water, creating proper waste-disposal systems and providing safe sanitation facilities, International Medical Corps restores healthy living conditions.

In Sudan, International Medical Corps implements community-led total sanitation activities, mobilizing communities to improve sanitation and hygiene by focusing on behavior change. Activities include:

- ▶ education about and promotion of good hygiene practices;
- ▶ creation of waste disposal facilities and practices;
- ▶ chlorination, rehabilitation and maintenance of water points;
- ▶ construction and rehabilitation of drainage canals and latrines; and
- ▶ improvement of WASH and infection control in health facilities.



NUTRITION

International Medical Corps provides nutrition services to populations in Sudan most vulnerable to hunger, including children under five, pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers. We operate 68 outpatient therapeutic programs (OTPs), 50 target supplementary feeding programs (TSFPs) and nine stabilization centers for malnourished children with life-threatening medical complications. In 2020, of the 477,357 people we screened for malnutrition, 75% (358,689) were children under five. Of those children, thousands were malnourished—we treated 13,702 in OTPs and 24,595 in TSFPs.

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

International Medical Corps supports Sudan's Ministry of Health (MoH), helping to promote a self-sufficient healthcare delivery system. Our activities to strengthen the health system include supporting service delivery, information management and health facility rehabilitation; deploying healthcare workers; and providing medical supplies and drugs. In addition, we support the MoH with disease control and response, disease surveillance and immunization, and provide training for MoH staff on emergency preparedness.





CAPACITY BUILDING

By emphasizing education, International Medical Corps helps communities move toward sustainability and self-reliance. Since arriving in Sudan in 2004, we have trained thousands of national medical personnel, traditional birth attendants and community leaders. These leaders then go on to educate their communities on topics that include:

- ▶ prevention and treatment of common communicable and noncommunicable diseases;

- ▶ reproductive health and early childhood care;
- ▶ identification and management of common childhood illnesses;
- ▶ nutritional screening, treatment and prevention; and
- ▶ outbreak preparedness and response management.

The expertise of these providers is crucial to integrating healthcare services into the community. Additionally, their skills provide the continuity of care needed to stabilize fragile health systems and foster long-term recovery.



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A pre-eminent first responder since 1984, International Medical Corps delivers emergency medical and related services to those affected by conflict, disaster and disease, no matter where they are, no matter what the conditions. We also train people in their communities, providing them with the skills they need to recover, chart their own path to self-reliance and become effective first responders themselves.

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