



An International Medical Corps clinical officer provides an outpatient consultation for a displaced woman at a mobile clinic in Renk, South Sudan.

In Sudan, conflict erupted between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on April 15. Now entering their fourth week, the clashes have had devastating consequences to those living in Sudan, many of whom are refugees from surrounding countries. More than 600 people have been killed and more than 5,000 people have been injured since the violence began.<sup>1</sup>

Healthcare services continue to be severely impacted by the conflict, with 28 reported attacks against healthcare-related entities, and 17 affecting healthcare facilities. Attacks include forced occupation of facilities, looting, obstruction of healthcare access and weaponized attacks.

Further concerns include child protection and gender-based violence (GBV), given the separation of families due to high transportation costs and the increasing number of refugees and returnees in transit camps and shelters across the border in neighboring countries. With severe inflation and transportation challenges, it is especially hard to meet needs throughout the country. It is estimated that the number of acutely food-insecure people in Sudan will increase from 2 million to 2.5 million within the next three to six months.<sup>2</sup>

As the conflict continues, the humanitarian crisis will continue to worsen, especially in the upcoming months during rainy season. Flooding will lead to road closures, further food insecurity and potential surges in diseases such as cholera.<sup>3</sup> As critical needs rapidly grow and evolve, humanitarian actors are working to deliver assistance to affected communities.

## FAST FACTS

- On April 15, clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) erupted in Khartoum. At least 600 people have been killed nationwide, and more than 5,000 injured.
- More than 100,000 people have fled Sudan to neighboring countries. This number is expected to increase as the violence continues.

## OUR FOOTPRINT

- International Medical Corps has been providing critical health, nutrition, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in Sudan since 2004.

## OUR RESPONSE

- Given the rapidly evolving security context, International Medical Corps has launched a regional response focused on expanding existing services and activities to meet the increased needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Sudan and refugees seeking safety in the Central African Republic (CAR) and South Sudan.
- In Sudan, we continue to support 51 health facilities by providing medical supplies and equipment, pharmaceuticals and staffing support.
- In CAR, our teams have provided more than 1,000 curative consultations and conducted nutrition screenings for more than 350 children.
- In South Sudan, we have reached almost 2,500 people with curative consultations and awareness-raising sessions on nutrition and gender-based violence (GBV).

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-65528513>

<sup>2</sup> <https://reports.unocha.org/en/country/sudan/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/central-african-republic/unicef-car-humanitarian-flash-update-no-2-impact-sudan-crisis-09-may-2023>

## International Medical Corps Response

To help meet the expanding humanitarian needs in Sudan and surrounding countries, our teams are scaling up existing programs in Sudan, South Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR).

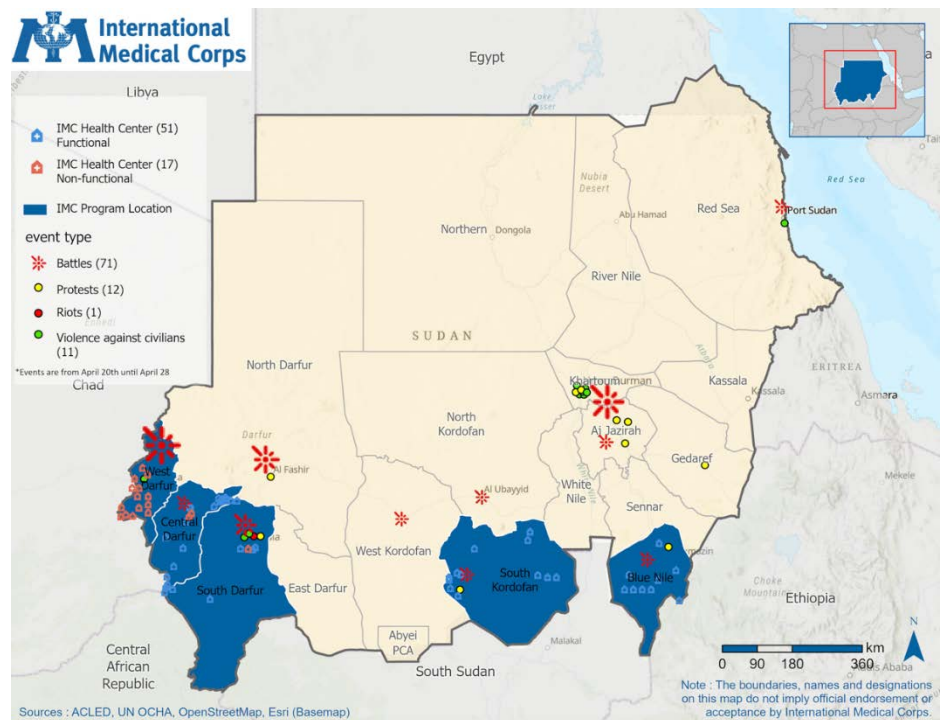
Since 2004, International Medical Corps has been providing critical health, nutrition, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in **Sudan**. We have also supported efforts by Sudan's Ministry of Health (MoH) to strengthen health systems and build capacity for providers.

Our teams in Sudan face ongoing challenges in ensuring the continuity of care, including a lack of protection for the offices and warehouses of international NGOs, bank closures and a lack of cash flow, increased prices of food commodities and services, shortages of reliable power, internet outages, limited mobile communication connectivity, fuel shortages, looting and ongoing conflict.

Amid the continuous threats, the health facilities International Medical Corps is supporting in Blue Nile, South Kordofan, South Darfur and Central Darfur are still functioning, with 51 out of 68 facilities currently in operation. Though it is challenging to generate and receive data about patient numbers and health facility status, we have been receiving some data from South Darfur, where we continue to provide outpatient consultations, including 45 antenatal care (ANC) consultations and 67 nutrition screenings. Health facilities in this region are critically low on supplies, which will likely last less than a week. Our teams are coordinating with local elders to transport medicines and supplies from our regional office to health facilities in South Darfur. In the Blue Nile region, health facilities are also running short on supplies. International Medical Corps has sent four weeks' worth of health, nutrition and WASH supplies from our regional warehouse to health facilities in the region. We are continuing to coordinate with partners, local authorities and other aid organizations to ensure that the medical supplies we have available in the regions are able to be picked up and transported to our supported health facilities to ensure continuity of services.

Given the security situation in Khartoum, our teams are currently in the process of establishing an office in Madani, about 200 km (124 miles) southeast of the capital. We are assembling a dedicated staff, including staff members from Khartoum, to help facilitate our operations in Sudan. In parallel, humanitarian aid organizations and other stakeholders are negotiating to create a humanitarian corridor between Port Sudan and Madani, which would serve as a vital route for the transportation and distribution of essential supplies and equipment arriving in Port Sudan to the rest of the country. We are continuing to draw upon our existing supplies in the region to provide pharmaceuticals, trauma kits, medical consumables and staffing support, and our logistics team is examining all available options for transportation of additional supplies into and throughout Sudan.

International Medical Corps is in contact our partners to organize a series of training sessions for our staff, other INGO staff and local healthcare providers to increase capacity in affected regions. We are exploring how to conduct a remote mass-casualty management course and a Stop the Bleed® course for acute trauma injuries. Our teams are also in communication with the MoH regarding the rollout of a training session on pediatric blast injuries, as there has been a noted gap in staff trained on pediatric surgical support. Additionally, we plan to provide psychological first-aid (PFA) training to our staff, other INGO staff and members of communities around Madani.



*A map of International Medical Corps' program locations and supported health facilities in Sudan, and reported events in the country. The number of functioning health facilities will continue to fluctuate as the conflict and security situations evolve in different regions. Additionally, many functioning facilities are at risk of running out of essential supplies and equipment due to supply-chain disruptions, which will leave them unable to continue providing services.*

Amid the violence in Sudan, more than 700,000 people have fled their homes, with at least 150,000 having already crossed international borders.<sup>4</sup> In response to the expanding humanitarian needs in the region, International Medical Corps is continuing to expand our existing programs in CAR and South Sudan.

Since 2007, International Medical Corps has been working in **CAR** to provide basic health services; reproductive, maternal and child health services; counseling and testing for HIV; treatment for acute respiratory infections; support to survivors of GBV; protection activities; nutrition services and malnutrition treatments; and MHPSS. Our teams have also strengthened the capacity of health facilities throughout the country by providing training for healthcare providers, midwives and protection assistants.

According to UNHCR registration, it is estimated that 9,725 people who have fled Sudan have found refuge in Am Dafok, including 6,328 Sudanese asylum seekers and 3,397 CAR returnees, 80% of whom are women and children. Our emergency response team is continuing to conduct curative consultations, so far reaching more than 1,000 people. The most common reported conditions include malaria, acute respiratory infections, diarrhea, depression and physical trauma. International Medical Corps has conducted nutrition screenings for 351 children, 165 of whom have presented with moderate acute malnutrition and 60 of whom have presented with severe acute malnutrition.

Our teams are also providing reproductive health (RH) services to women in Am Dafok. We have administered ANC to 228 women, assisted with five deliveries and helped support six survivors of rape with healthcare services. With the rapid influx of refugees and returnees and a general lack of privacy and safe spaces, GBV cases are rising. Our GBV staff are working to address this by expanding protection activities and ensuring that healthcare services are available for women and girls.

As part of our ongoing efforts to help ensure the continuity of our existing operations and expand our programs to address evolving needs, we are procuring and distributing supplementary medical supplies and equipment, including interagency emergency health kits (IEHKs), malaria kits, tents, RH kits and pharmaceuticals.

International Medical Corps has worked in **South Sudan** since the mid-1990s, providing primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare; maternal and child health; nutrition; GBV prevention and response services; and MHPSS. To help meet existing and emerging needs related to the conflict, we have stationed an emergency response team in the Upper Nile region of South Sudan.

As of May 7, 43,558 people had crossed the border into South Sudan, with more than 90% of arrivals being South Sudanese nationals. In response to this influx, International Medical Corps quickly sent an emergency response team to provide crucial support at a transit camp and offer assistance to returnees traveling to their communities of origin. Our teams are stationed in the border town of Renk, where we are delivering vital emergency healthcare services. As of May 7, we had reached 1,189 people through curative consultations. Additionally, our integrated health sessions, which cover topics such as GBV and nutrition awareness, had benefitted 1,288 people. As part of our continued efforts, we have also requested two IEHKs, including supplementary modules for malaria treatment, and additional equipment. Our teams will continue to facilitate the procurement and delivery of medical supplies and equipment as the situation continues to evolve.

International Medical Corps will continue to coordinate with partners, local authorities and other relevant stakeholders to meet the progressing needs in South Sudan and CAR. In Sudan, our security team and our staff members are working with relevant parties to ensure that the continuation and expansion of our programs take place only under safe and secure conditions.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/over-700000-people-internally-displaced-within-sudan-more-than-doubling-iom-2023-05-09/>