International Medical Corps

Sudan Conflict Situation Report #18 May 7, 2024



Abrar and her sister Buthaina wait to receive hygiene kits distributed by International Medical Corps at an IDP gathering point in Sinja, Sennar.

A year on from the outbreak of conflict, Sudan is experiencing a devastating humanitarian crisis. The humanitarian needs are some of the highest worldwide, with a looming famine and more than 8 million people displaced.

Alarmingly, 17.7 million people—more than one-third of the country's population—are facing acute food insecurity, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network and the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) alert for Sudan, with 4.9 million people on the brink of famine. Almost 9 out of 10 people at emergency levels of hunger (IPC 4) are in the conflict-affected areas of Al Jazirah, Darfur, Khartoum and Kordofan. With the onset of the lean season from April onwards, food insecurity is expected to worsen. Al Jazirah and Khartoum states, as well as greater Darfur and greater Kordofan, are expected to face catastrophic outcomes if the conflict gets worse, resulting in sustained displacement and limited to no humanitarian access to populations in need. Of greatest concern are North Darfur and Khartoum states, including Omdurman locality, as well as areas in greater Darfur hosting huge numbers of IDPs in overcrowded camps.

As food insecurity increases, the nutrition situation continues to deteriorate. A staggering 4.9 million children under 5 and pregnant and nursing women are estimated to be acutely malnourished and need

FAST FACTS

- One year since the conflict erupted, more than 8.7 million people have fled their homes, including 4.6 million children.
- More than one-third of the country's population is facing acute hunger and is under a warning of potential famine, as reported by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network.
- A staggering 4.9 million children under 5 and pregnant and nursing women are estimated to be acutely malnourished. Out of the 4.9 million, about 730,000 children are suffering from severe acute malnutrition.
- Nearly 9 out of 10 people facing extreme hunger are in conflict-affected areas.

OUR FOOTPRINT

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

OUR RESPONSE

- Serving 72 nationwide health facilities potentially accessed by more than
 2.7 million people, International Medical Corps delivers health, MHPSS, nutrition, and WASH services to conflict-affected communities.
- International Medical Corps operates a network of 64 nutrition centers for malnourished children with life-threatening medical complications.

urgent lifesaving assistance. This is a 22% increase compared to 2023. Of the 4.9 million, about 730,000 children are suffering from severe acute malnutrition.¹

International Medical Corps Response

In response to the food insecurity crisis in Sudan, International Medical Corps is running nutrition services in 64 health facilities, including outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) sites, targeted supplementary feeding program (TSFP) sites and a stabilization center (SC) in seven states (Blue Nile, Central Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur, Khartoum, Sennar and

¹ Sudan Humanitarian Update (25 April 2024)

South Kordofan). According to the National Nutrition Cluster Classification of the locations of priority, based on the IPC across 190 localities in Sudan, 40% of the sites targeted by International Medical Corps are classified as IPC 4, 45% as IPC 3 and 15% as IPC 2.

In the face of this daunting food crisis, International Medical Corps' nutrition team has admitted 616 children between 6–59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) without medical complications into the OTP for treatment and 277 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) into our TSFP for treatment across our functional nutrition centers. We also admitted 70 children with SAM with medical complications into SCs for treatment.

International Medical Corps is planning to reach tens of thousands of people, focusing especially on children and women, at risk of malnutrition with our lifesaving nutrition services in 2024. To bolster our nutrition program and mitigate malnutrition, plans are underway to form an additional 70 mother-support groups, which



Zainab, a two-year-old malnourished child, sits on her grandmother's lap enjoying ready-to-use therapeutic food, marking the start of her treatment plan.

will be instrumental in fostering best practices for maternal and child nutrition. We also plan to provide a targeted counseling program to offer support to pregnant women and caregivers of young children, ensuring that essential nutritional guidance is accessible both in health facilities and community environments.

During March and April 2024, International Medical Corps trained 128 nutrition staff (35 men and 93 women) working at our health facilities across Sudan on key infant and young-child feeding practice messages, SAM and MAM management, community mobilization, case screening, referral, reporting and inpatient care management for children between 0–59 months with SAM with medical complications.

Since the conflict erupted, International Medical Corps also has provided affected communities with a wide range of essential services, including health, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), nutrition, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. We continue collaborating with local authorities and international actors to assess and address evolving humanitarian needs.

Since April 2023, International Medical Corps has provided 473,224 medical consultations, addressing various health concerns in the community. Our educational sessions, which cover nutrition, hygiene, reproductive health and mental health topics, have reached 74,955 participants. To promote awareness of important health issues, we have conducted awareness-raising campaigns on hygiene and antenatal care (ANC), reaching 85,184 people. We have delivered 34,919 vaccinations to safeguard children and pregnant women against vaccine-preventable diseases. We have helped 1,482 children through the OTP, where we address cases of SAM. We have helped support 51,549 ANC visits for women, safely delivered 7,323 newborns and provided such essential services as skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care and newborn care. Following delivery, we've facilitated postnatal care (PNC) visits for 5,659 women, offering them necessary follow-up services and support. Furthermore, we have conducted 1,950 MHPSS consultations for people suffering from stress and trauma.

During March 2024, International Medical Corps supported 72 health facilities and nine stabilization centers nationwide. Our teams provided 86,285 medical consultations, assisted with 1,542 deliveries and provided 920 mothers and newborns with PNC consultations, while 12,040 women attended ANC visits. We delivered 6,661 immunizations and supported 321 people with MHPSS services. We reached 33,908 people through group education sessions and awareness-raising sessions.