More than a year from the outbreak of conflict in April 2023, Sudan is experiencing a devastating humanitarian crisis. The humanitarian needs are some of the highest worldwide, with a looming famine and more than 10 million people displaced.

18 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 nine out of 10 people at emergency levels of hunger (IPC 4) are in the conflict-affected areas of Al Jazirah, Darfur, Khartoum and Kordofan. 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 those in need. Of greatest concern are North Darfur and Khartoum states, including Omdurman locality and areas in greater Darfur hosting huge numbers of IDPs in overcrowded camps.

As food insecurity increases, the nutrition situation continues to deteriorate. According to the World Food Programme (WFP), at least 3.7 million children under 5 in Sudan are estimated to be acutely malnourished, including more than 2.9 million who are expected to suffer from moderate acute malnutrition. Additionally, 1.2 million pregnant and lactating women are suffering from acute malnutrition and are in urgent need of treatment. During the lean season, from May through September, FEWS NET expects Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes to spread across greater Darfur, greater Kordofan and in some areas of eastern Sudan, while pockets of households will face Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5) outcomes in parts of West Darfur, Khartoum and among displaced populations in greater Darfur.

**International Medical Corps Response**

In response to the food-insecurity crisis in Sudan, International Medical Corps is supporting a robust network of 57 nutrition centers, including outpatient therapeutic program (OTP) sites, targeted supplementary-feeding program (TSFP) sites and stabilization centers (SCs) in seven states: Blue Nile, Central Darfur, South Darfur, West Darfur,
Khartoum, Sennar and 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 situation, International Medical Corps’ nutrition teams have admitted 960 children between 6–59 months with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) without medical complications into the OTP for treatment and 332 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) into our TSFP for treatment across our functional nutrition centers. We also have admitted 73 children with SAM with medical complications into SCs for treatment in Blue Nile and Central Darfur states.

In coordination with UNICEF and WFP, and in partnership with local non-governmental organizations, International Medical Corps is providing community management of acute malnutrition and infant and young-child feeding services to thousands of malnourished children and women across our supported nutrition sites and communities. We are supporting more than 70 mother-support groups, which are 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.

Access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services remains the primary need of IDPs displaced across the country, particularly across the Darfur, Kordofan and Sennar regions. International Medical Corps is providing lifesaving WASH services across the communities and health facilities it supports. We are also working to rehabilitate and maintain an additional 24 water supply systems in communities, IDP settlements and health facilities. This effort aims to provide improved access to sustainable and equitable safe water sources for drinking and domestic use for more than 42,000 people. We are supporting emergency water trucking to IDP settlements while the water points undergo maintenance. We also are training water user committees on the maintenance of rehabilitated water points.

The country is facing multiple outbreaks of disease simultaneously. However, resources and local capacities to detect and respond to outbreaks are limited, particularly in hard-to-reach areas such as in Darfur and Kordofan states. As of epidemiological week 22, 2024 (ending 31 May 2024), at least two-thirds of the states are experiencing three or more outbreaks of different diseases—including measles, cholera, malaria, dengue and pertussis—simultaneously. Expanded immunization services are an integral part of our work across all the clinics we support.

Since April 2023, International Medical Corps has provided 666,345 medical consultations addressing various health concerns in the community. Our educational sessions—which cover nutrition, hygiene, reproductive health and mental health topics—have reached 108,519 participants. We have delivered 49,613 vaccinations to safeguard children and pregnant women against vaccine-preventable diseases. We have helped 7,478 children through the OTP, where cases of SAM are addressed. We have helped support 79,686 antenatal care (ANC) visits for women, safely delivered 11,103 newborns and provided essential services such as skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care and newborn care. Following delivery, we have facilitated postnatal care (PNC) visits for 7,819 women, offering them necessary follow-up services and support. Finally, we have conducted 4,209 mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) consultations for people suffering from stress and trauma.

During May 2024, International Medical Corps’ teams provided 101,881 medical consultations, assisted with 1,940 deliveries and provided 1,036 mothers and newborns with PNC consultations, while 13,467 women attended ANC visits. We delivered 7,271 immunizations and supported 398 people with MHPSS services. We reached 31,464 people through group education sessions and awareness-raising sessions.