

Plan International is working to provide a safe and supportive environment for children displaced by the conflict in Sudan which is now entering its third year. These spaces aim to help children cope with their traumatic experiences by offering a range of activities and services.



Until we are all equal



Plan International Sudan

# Humanitarian Advocacy

Policy brief

April 2025

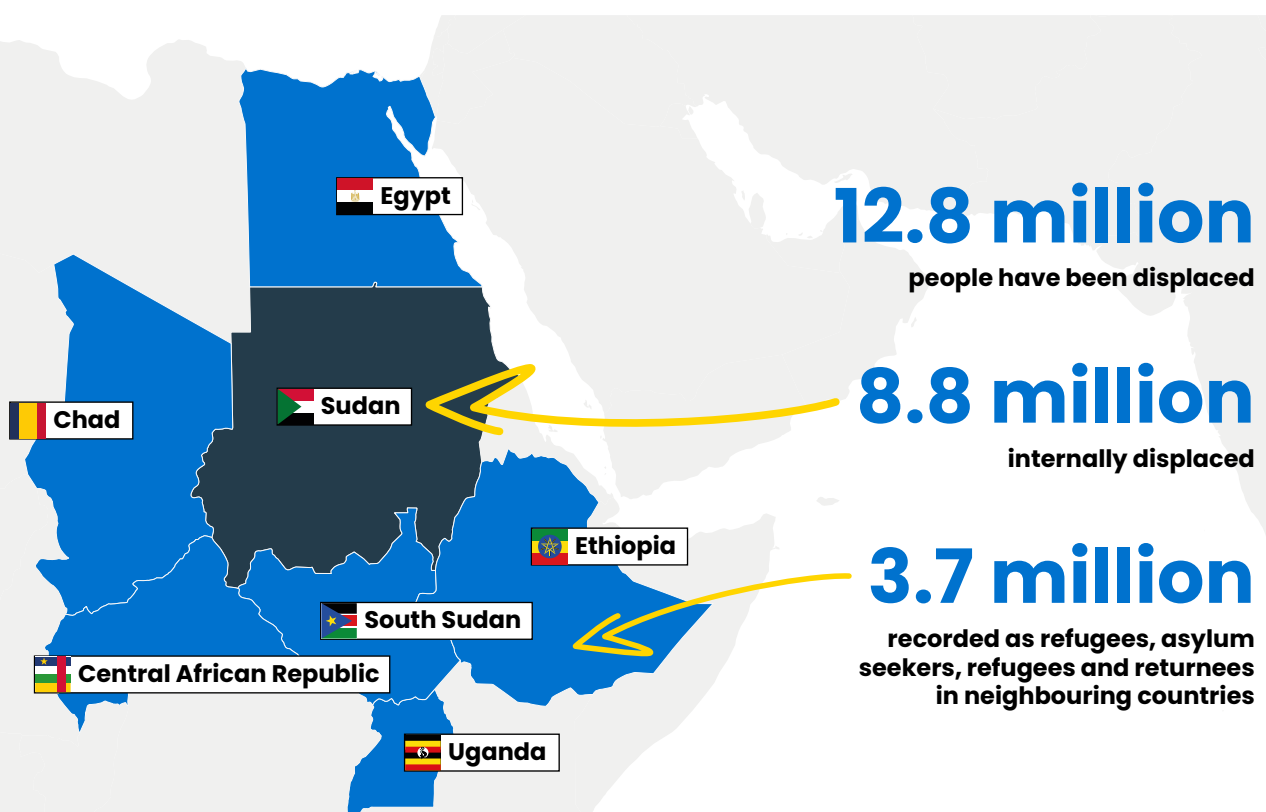
# Background

The conflict in Sudan which erupted in April 2023 has evolved into the world's fastest growing and largest displacement crisis, the world's largest child displacement crisis and the world's largest hunger crisis. [As of March 2025, data from UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration \(IOM\) indicates that over 12.8 million people have been displaced by the conflict with an estimated 8.8 million people internally displaced](#) and a further 3.7 million Sudanese recorded as refugees, asylum seekers, refugees and returnees in neighbouring countries, including Chad, South Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Uganda, and the Central African Republic (CAR). **One in every four Sudanese is now displaced and one out of every six displaced persons globally is Sudanese.**

“I never thought I would become displaced in my own country. The clashes came suddenly, and there was no warning. My family tried to flee, but we were separated along the way. I ended up in this camp with strangers.”

Salma, 22, Al Jazirah, East Sudan

Sudan is also facing catastrophic levels of hunger due to the crisis. Sudan is now among the top four countries in the world with the highest prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM). According to Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) projection for the period of December 2024 to May 2025, over half of the country's population – nearly 24.6 million people – will likely experience high levels of acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3 or above), of which 8.1 million people in IPC phase 4 and at least 638,000 people in IPC Phase 5 (catastrophe) and nearly 5 million children and pregnant and breastfeeding women are acutely malnourished. Sudan is also currently grappling with multiple disease outbreaks including cholera, malaria, dengue fever, measles, and rubella. The IPC Famine Review Committee reported that it has detected famine in at least five areas and projects that five additional areas/localities will face Famine between December 2024 and May 2025. The Sudanese government has rejected the IPC's description of the situation in Sudan as a famine.





Our Child Protection in Emergencies Specialists, listening to South Sudanese refugees in White Nile State.

The situation has also exacerbated protection risks, including gender-based violence (GBV), human trafficking, child and forced family separation, psychological/emotional abuse and other children's rights violations. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), 52% of IDP households in Sudan report needing protection services, with an overwhelming demand for child protection in the Darfur region, where food insecurity has reached catastrophic levels. Despite this alarming need, **as noted in the [2025 Global Humanitarian Overview \(GHO\)](#) the crisis in Sudan remains underfunded.** Over 30.4 million people need humanitarian assistance in 2025. Despite this, there remained a \$931.5 million

(34.8%) funding gap from the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and **[only a paltry 6.5% of the 2025 HRP has been funded by March 2025.](#)**

This brief provides an assessment of the main areas of concern in the humanitarian situation in Sudan. It is drawn from observations and field visits by Plan International staff coordinating the response to the crisis and it highlights recommendations towards ensuring all children are protected from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation through appropriate prevention and response interventions in line with the Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.

Areas of concern

# 1. Humanitarian Access and International Humanitarian Law

Impediments and restrictions on humanitarian access have exacerbated humanitarian suffering across Sudan. Despite the magnitude of unmet humanitarian needs, both local humanitarian responders and international NGOs face numerous obstacles in delivering humanitarian relief to civilians affected by the multiple crises. Insecurity due to ongoing fighting, for example, has made it impossible to access famine-affected areas controlled by the main armed parties to the conflict. The blockade and escalating fighting in Al Fasher, North Darfur State, the suspension of aid deliveries to Zamzam Camp have delayed or prevented the delivery of commercial and humanitarian supplies to areas of acute need. The escalating fighting

and its expansion across Sudan have negatively impacted the operations of Plan International particularly in North and South Darfur, where active hostilities impede safe outreach to famine affected areas with lifesaving interventions.

In other areas such as North Kordofan and South Kordofan, our staff movement is very restricted as result of the prevailing security situation. Delivery of Hygiene and Emergency Shelter Kits in areas such as El Obeid in North Kordofan, for example, has not been possible due to the inability of trucks to secure passage forcing redirection to other areas. Critical support for sponsorship communities in North Kordofan has also been suspended due to



Our team in the White Nile Program Area distributed Non-Food Items to internally displaced people at various gathering sites.

denial of permissions. Plan International offices in North Kordofan have also been damaged in the recent escalation of fighting in North Kordofan.

Humanitarian aid workers in Sudan continue to face threats, arrests, harassment and attacks from multiple armed groups and bandits, and local humanitarian responders and volunteers have reported increasing cases of retaliatory attacks especially when areas come under the control of warring parties due to perceived sympathy or support for the other armed actor.<sup>1</sup> A flagrant violation of International Humanitarian Law is the killing of more than one hundred civilians on April 11 2025, including more than 20 children, in an attack on Zamzam camp in North Darfur,<sup>2</sup> as well as the direct targeting and killing of 10 humanitarian aid workers in the camp. Zamzam camp and neighbouring Abu Shouk camp provide shelter for more than 700,000 displaced people – the majority of whom are women and children – and the targeting of civilians and humanitarians puts hundreds of thousands of civilians at risk of starvation and death. Humanitarian supplies have also been targeted for looting by armed groups with UN agencies such as the World Food Programme and UNICEF reporting cases where convoys headed to Central Darfur or medical supplies in

Khartoum have been looted following attacks by various armed groups.<sup>3</sup>

Humanitarian actors in Sudan continue to face excessive bureaucratic and administrative restrictions on delivery of humanitarian aid. This includes delays in approvals for access, delays in visa approvals for critical humanitarian staff necessary to scale up humanitarian responses, and imposition of arbitrary, complicated and time-consuming access conditions such as inspection procedures for humanitarian convoys carrying vitally needed food and medical supplies into Darfur that has often delayed vital aid reaching famine-stricken communities in Darfur.<sup>4</sup>

Sudan's communications infrastructure has also been heavily impacted due to direct damage to telecommunications towers, electricity outages and fuel shortages, and severe congestion in areas where internally displaced people are gathering. The telecommunications blackout makes it almost impossible to assess the humanitarian situation or to stay in contact with and receive updates on the wellbeing and safety of humanitarian personnel in such areas. The collapse of banking and financial services has also made it increasingly difficult and costly to implement programmes.

**“I lost contact with my extended family when we had to flee. I don't know where they are now. I am here with my two young children. The children are sick, and the camp is overcrowded. I am scared because there are not enough medical supplies. But I keep going for my children. I don't want them to lose their future.”**

Fatima, 28, Al Jazirah, East Sudan

- 1 Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (2024), Sudan's El Fasher siege: UN humanitarians killed as refugee crisis intensifies <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/12/sudan-alarming-el-fasher-siege-hostilities-must-end-un-report>
- 2 Plan International (2025), Plan International condemns killing of civilians and aid workers in Sudan camp attack <https://plan-international.org/news/2025/04/14/plan-international-condemns-killing-of-civilians-and-aid-workers-in-sudan-camp-attack/>
- 3 See United Nations (2024), Sudan: UN food convoy attacked, supplies looted amid worsening crisis <https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/07/1151656> and UNICEF (2025) UNICEF condemns looting of life-saving supplies for children from Al Bashair hospital in Khartoum State <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/unicef-condemns-looting-life-saving-supplies-children-al-bashair-hospital-khartoum>
- 4 Sudan INGO Forum (2024) Famine in Sudan: INGOs call out deadly delays and inadequate response, <https://reliefweb.int/report/sudan/famine-sudan-ingos-call-out-deadly-delays-and-inadequate-response>



Since late 2022, many countries, especially those in Africa in difficult circumstances, have been driven by food crises, and Sudan is no exception. In Kassala State, more than a quarter of children are suffering from acute malnutrition. A survey conducted by Plan International in June 2022 found that 27% of infants aged 6-59 months have Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) and 42% were underweight. This was even before the current conflict.

### Areas of concern

## 2. Food Security and Nutrition

The food security and nutrition situation in Sudan is rapidly deteriorating and negatively impacting the effectiveness of other humanitarian interventions in health, protection and education. The hunger and malnutrition rates in Sudan are unprecedented, the country continues to slide into a widening famine characterized by widespread starvation and a significant surge in acute malnutrition. Humanitarian actors are increasingly witnessing depression, embarrassment and frustration among IDPs in camps due to food shortages. Driven by desperation, IDPs are increasingly taking the risk of returning to their areas of origin despite ongoing and serious security concerns such as the risk posed by unexploded ordnances and inadequate conditions for sustainable reintegration.

The ongoing conflict has resulted in unprecedented displacement, economic collapse, and disruptions

to supply chains for food, essential non-food commodities, and services. Hostilities have had direct and indirect impacts on agricultural activities in rural areas during the past productive season. Problems with the availability of physical cash to conduct transactions, and price inflation, have contributed to a further worsening of the situation in the past months. Despite a relative increase of food aid, the assistance provided remains wholly inadequate both in terms of scale and outreach. Above-average rains in the last season (September to December) sustained agriculture activities where security allowed farmers to access fields and inputs, alleviating some food insecurity. However, not all populations benefited equally. Reliance on credit for agricultural inputs, coupled with dysfunctional financial systems, reduced yields even in safer areas. In some regions, insecurity and conflict severely disrupted farming activities,

In the Zamzam IDP camp there is a Global Acute Malnutrition prevalence of

**23.1%**

in children under five, with

**7.1%**

experiencing Severe Acute Malnutrition



In the Western Nuba Mountains, GAM prevalence among children under five was

**36.3%**

among IDPs, and

**31.2%**

among the resident population

leading to abandoned crops, looting, and stock destruction. This is expected to continue into the main agriculture season. The sustained reduction in market access and difficulties in conducting trade, along with insecurity and mass displacement has impacted on many people's livelihoods and access to basic services in Sudan and reduced their coping capacities. Their ability to deal with normal seasonal changes and minor shocks has therefore been reduced, exposing communities to additional risks.

According to a joint nutrition vulnerability analysis by UNICEF, WFP, and WHO, conflict in Sudan is causing a critical child malnutrition crisis due to limited food, damaged healthcare, and inadequate water access, leaving displaced populations without resources and vulnerable to disease. This situation is rapidly worsening, putting children at extreme risk. These combined factors create a critical environment for malnutrition, especially among vulnerable groups like children under five and pregnant or breastfeeding women. Recent assessments underscore the severity of the

situation. For instance, in the Zamzam IDP camp, a January 2024 MSF nutrition survey revealed a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence of 23.1% among children under five, with 7.1% experiencing Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). Similarly, SMART nutrition and mortality surveys conducted in the Western Nuba Mountains between mid-August and mid-September 2024 showed GAM prevalence among children under five exceeding extremely critical thresholds (IPC Acute Malnutrition (AMN) Phase 5), with 36.3% among IDPs and 31.2% among the resident population.

The child malnutrition crisis in Sudan is expected to worsen due to the ongoing conflict and limited access to essential services. Acute malnutrition poses a severe threat, increasing the risk of death elevenfold compared to healthy children. This creates a dangerous cycle where malnutrition and illness weaken each other, and even if children survive, they may suffer lifelong developmental consequences.

**“In Sudan we have one of the world's worst humanitarian crises with over 11 million people displaced. Many of these people have lost their families, their livelihood and their homes. Many have also had to move more than once due to the fluid nature of this war. The impact of this war has been exacerbated by famine – we have 638,000 in the Western part of Sudan facing famine, who are categorised in IPC 5 – which is catastrophic famine. Women and girls have been subjected to some of the worst forms of gender-based violence – including sexual violence and rape with impunity.”**

Angela Murithi, Plan International's Sub Regional Director, East and Southern Africa

## Areas of concern

## 3. Child Protection

Children have been disproportionately affected by the humanitarian crisis in Sudan. The Sudan crisis is the world's largest child displacement crisis with over 4.6 million children who have fled their homes since April 2023. Nearly half of the over 30 million people who need humanitarian assistance are children.<sup>5</sup> Nearly 1 million children have also fled across borders, particularly to Chad, Egypt and South Sudan.

Despite forming nearly half of the affected population, children's humanitarian needs remain largely unmet. An estimated 90% of Sudan's 19 million school-aged children have lost access to formal education. The presence of unexploded ordnances (UXOs) and explosive remnants of war (ERW) has continued to place children and their families at immediate risk of physical injuries and death with the highest severity in Khartoum, the greater Darfur region, Aj Jazirah, the Kordofan states, Sennar and White Nile.<sup>6</sup> Due to breakdown of social structures in the communities displaced and refugee children and adolescents lack access to basic needs such as food, shelter, water, sexual and reproductive health and critical lifesaving information.

Witnessing explosions, seeing all kinds of weapons, armed persons and violent killings of friends and relatives has had profound mental health and psychosocial impact on children, adolescents and their families. Prolonged lack of access to basic services (water, food, shelter, health and education) has left children, adolescents and their caregivers in distress and hopelessness which is reported to impact on their emotional well-being.<sup>7</sup> Furthermore, for caregivers, loss of their sources of livelihoods and worries on how to sustain or meet the needs of their families continue to affect their mental health wellbeing while exposing the children and adolescents to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation

Children and adolescents who are out of school, displaced and separated or unaccompanied face significant risks of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. Displaced and refugee adolescent girls face significant risks of sexual violence, child marriage and sexual exploitation compounded by the existing harmful practices such as female genital cutting (FGC), whereas adolescent boys in Sudan are particularly vulnerable for use and recruitment into armed forces and armed groups. Unmet humanitarian needs and economic pressure on

**“We fled from our villages when the fighting started. It happened so quickly, we didn't have time to pack our belongings. My kids were afraid, and we had to leave everything behind.”**

Amina, 35, Al Jazirah, East Sudan

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF: The Sudan crisis – A children's crisis – <https://www.unicef.org/sudan/sudan-crisis-childrens-crisis-0>

<sup>6</sup> UNICEF (June 2024), Explosive remnants of war: A growing threat to children and families in Sudan <https://www.unicef.org/sudan/stories/explosive-remnants-war>

<sup>7</sup> UNICEF: Voices of the displaced The mental health impact of Sudan's war on children; <https://www.unicef.org/sudan/stories/voices-displaced>





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families are likely to increase child protection risks even further. These risks underscore the significant needs of children, requiring focused humanitarian services and interventions including child protection, education and other basic needs support.

There is a reported increase in grave violations against children, notably a shocking increase in cases of sexual violence against children, abductions, recruitment and use of children by armed groups and attacks against schools and hospitals. In March 2025, UNICEF reported that children as young as one have been victims of sexual violence amid the conflict.<sup>8</sup> The suffering of vulnerable children is exacerbated by a critical shortage of emergency services due to the

collapse of the health system in parts of Sudan affected by the conflict.

Child protection is a critical area of concern, with 6.2 million children requiring urgent services. The displacement crisis has left children vulnerable to exploitation, abuse, neglect and violence. Unaccompanied and separated children are at particular risk of trafficking, child labor, psychological and emotional abuse, recruitment by armed groups, and gender-based violence (GBV). Moreover, humanitarian organizations providing child protection services are severely under-resourced, limiting their ability to provide safe environments for children, support for child survivors, or the reunification of families.

<sup>8</sup> UNICEF (March 2025): Sudan's Child Rape and Sexual Violence Crisis – <https://www.unicef.org/sudan/media/15671/file/UNI754893.pdf>

## Areas of concern

## 4. Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

Women and girls in areas affected by conflict face disproportionately high risk of gender-based violence. While still under-reported, there has been a steep and alarming rise in cases of women and girls being abducted and subjected to rape, forced marriage, and sexual captivity in Sudan. The UN's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan reports that sexual violence documented in Sudan includes "rape, gang rape, sexual exploitation, and abduction for sexual purposes as well as allegations of enforced marriages and human trafficking for sexual purposes across borders."

The UN Humanitarian Country Team has reported witnessing a staggering 288 per cent increase in the number of survivors seeking gender-based violence (GBV) case management services during the first seven months of 2024. This is compounded by cases of sexual exploitation driven by food insecurity and water scarcity, along with severely limited access to essential post-rape care and support

services for survivors. The risk of sexual violence in internally displaced persons' gathering sites and even among host communities for displaced persons has also increased, particularly for children. UNICEF has also reported that Sudan saw the highest number of verified grave violations against children in more than a decade in 2023, noting a shocking increase in sexual violence against children with children as young as one among survivors of rape by armed men.

The patterns of sexual violence witnessed and the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war are an abhorrent violation of International Humanitarian Law and will have devastating effects for survivors. Sexual violence leaves victims grappling with significant psychological trauma, forced isolation or family rejection due to social stigma, pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, serious injury and other complications in a situation where they face a critical shortage of emergency services, such as post-rape care and psychosocial support services.



14-year-old Angham and her family was displaced from her home city of Madani when the fighting spread from Khartoum to Al Jazirah state. She is now living in a school in Kassala State where she and her family share a small office space. With no beds or mattresses, they sleep on the ground and are struggling to survive.



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#### Areas of concern

## 5. Education

The educational needs of children in Sudan are staggering. Protracted violence and prolonged displacement have kept children out of school, leaving them at risk of falling behind in their education. Children displaced by the fighting increasingly are increasingly vulnerable to grave violations and harmful practices such as recruitment by armed groups, sexual violence, child marriage, child labour and trafficking. Adolescent girls have been disproportionately affected by the conflict as they are frequently married off before the age of 18, disrupting their education and robbing them of a hope for a brighter future.

UNICEF estimates that 17 out of 19 million school aged children in Sudan are not learning and with only 20 percent of schools have reopened since April 2023. Schools have reopened in relatively

safe states such as Northern, Red Sea, River Nile, Kassala and Gedaref. In contrast, none or very few schools have reopened in states affected by the conflict such as Khartoum, Al Jazirah, Sennar, South Kordofan, West Kordofan and East Darfur states. This situation exacerbates the inequalities in access to education for children from the areas of Sudan affected by the conflict that have already experienced historical and structural marginalization. In states such as North Kordofan, less than 43% of children are enrolled in pre-school and dropout rates can reach up to 50 percent.<sup>9</sup> For refugee children, especially those who have fled to neighbouring countries like Chad, South Sudan, and Egypt, access to education is further complicated by overcrowded schools, language barriers, and the lack of resources. In addition, the use of schools as shelters for displaced persons especially in urban areas also disrupts education

<sup>9</sup> Plan International Annual Update: North Kordofan: [https://plansverige.org/app/uploads/2024/11/pau\\_norra-kordofan\\_6186\\_fy25.pdf](https://plansverige.org/app/uploads/2024/11/pau_norra-kordofan_6186_fy25.pdf)

“Despite settling in Kassala, one of my biggest problems is education. The school system here is very different from what I was used to. In this new school, we sit on the floor and textbooks are scarce – each student has only one or two notebooks. The teaching is incomplete and with only partial lessons, we are not getting the education we need to secure our future. We only have two or three classes a day, mostly Quran and English, while other subjects are barely taught.”

Mehad, 18 years old

## Schools have also been targeted in the conflict

Recent attacks in El Obeid, North Kordofan, resulted in **4 schools being hit by shelling, 2 of which were girls' schools**

for children from host communities in states hosting a high number of IDPs such as Gedaref and Kassala.

The conflict has also disrupted exams for over a million Sudanese students as national secondary certificate exams have not been held since the start of the war in 2023. In December 2024, at least 400,000 internally displaced students in Sudan and 17,000 refugee students in Chad were unable to sit their final (grade 12) exams.<sup>10</sup> According to the Sudanese Teachers Committee, students in eight out of Sudan's 18 states were wholly excluded from the exams with students unable to travel to safer areas to take exams while others took perilous journeys across conflict zones and harsh terrain to sit for the exams. The Ministry of Education reported that out of the 570,000 eligible students, only 343,000 registered, and just 250,000 sat the exams. The Certificate exams are pivotal for students looking to pursue higher education or career paths and without safe and equitable access to education, there is a risk of deepening inequality between children in Sudan because of the conflict. A second round of exams is scheduled

for 9 April 2025 for the 2024 cohort and students from the 2023 cohort who missed the first round.<sup>11</sup> However, assistance and protection measures are needed to support students who will need to move across conflict zones to exam centers and securing agreement with neighbouring states such as Chad to allow refugee students to take their exams there.

As a result of the ongoing conflict, schools across the country have been converted from places of learning and safe refuge for children into shelters for the displaced. 3,287 schools (17%) also serve as shelters for IDPs.<sup>12</sup> In addition, 50 percent of teachers have gone months without salaries, depleting Sudan's critical human resource capacity for education as teachers who have been affected by displacement seek alternative sources of livelihood. Schools have also been targeted in the conflict. Recent attacks in El Obeid, North Kordofan, resulted in 4 schools being hit by shelling, 2 of which were girls' schools and disrupted the reopening of schools with this attack coming just as normalcy was returning to El-Obeid city.<sup>13</sup> This shelling took place in the daytime, resulting in a high number of fatalities and injuries, most of whom were children.

<sup>10</sup> Plan International, Time is running out for Sudan students yet to sit their December exams; <https://plan-international.org/middle-east-e-s-africa/news/2025/01/21/time-running-out-sudan-students-sit-december-exams/>

<sup>11</sup> UN OCHA, Humanitarian Update: January 2025: [https://reliefweb.int/attachments/a7a8c9b9-26a1-470e-93dc-5e72efddc76d/SUDAN\\_20250205\\_Humanitarian%20Update\\_01-31January2025\\_FINAL.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/attachments/a7a8c9b9-26a1-470e-93dc-5e72efddc76d/SUDAN_20250205_Humanitarian%20Update_01-31January2025_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> UNICEF Sudan Humanitarian Situation Report No. 23, 1 – 30 September 2024

<sup>13</sup> Plan International (August 2024): Schools should not be a target in any conflict; <https://plan-international.org/middle-east-e-s-africa/news/2024/08/15/schools-should-not-be-target-in-any-conflict/>

# Key Recommendations

**1**

**The parties to the conflict and other governments must urgently secure an immediate cessation of hostilities to end the violence and allow safe conditions for humanitarian workers to reach affected populations.**

Humanitarian actors urgently need unfettered access to deliver life-saving relief to affected populations before it is too late to prevent massive loss of life from famine. Sudanese authorities and armed groups should lift bureaucratic and administrative restrictions on delivery of humanitarian aid and access to civilians in need of humanitarian aid. The scope of access must be comprehensive and based on humanitarian principles. All access points need to be opened to avert a humanitarian catastrophe and for the humanitarian response to be commensurate with the scale of the need. Both crossline and cross-border access is needed for both humanitarian supplies and personnel. All parties should commit to prohibition of any attacks on humanitarian workers or looting of humanitarian supplies. Attacks on telecommunications infrastructure or internet blackouts also constitute a serious protection risk and violation of International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

**2**

**Any violations of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) must be condemned and prohibited** wherever they are committed by any armed actors. There is a reported increase in grave violations against children, notably a shocking increase in cases of sexual violence against children, abductions, recruitment and use of children by armed groups and attacks against schools and hospitals. The international community should take immediate action to end the recruitment and use of children into armed forces or groups, demand the release of all children currently involved, and prioritize their reintegration into their communities to restore their rights and well-being.

**3**

**Alongside strong and prompt funding from donors for the overall humanitarian response, there is urgent need to ensure increased funding for and prioritize access to education for school age girls and boys affected by the conflict.** The disruption in education due to the ongoing conflict has left children displaced by the fighting increasingly vulnerable to grave violations and harmful practices such as recruitment and use by armed forces or groups, sexual violence, child marriage, child labour and trafficking. **Armed forces or groups should immediately vacate from schools** in Sudan, as their presence violates Safe Schools Declaration and international humanitarian law.



“The child friendly space opened on 1st March,” explains facilitator Nasra Abdalla. “There are colouring books and sketchbooks for children. These activities help children to appreciate their talents, especially drawing and painting. We have discovered that they have many talents that they couldn’t utilise because they didn’t have anything.”

## 4

**Humanitarian actors need to provide immediate multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance** with priority placed on areas and populations already in famine, where famine is projected to occur, and where a risk of famine exists. The support should also focus on **scaling up nutrition interventions**, ensuring treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition in emergency and recovery situations. On the other there is need to focus on the **restoration of productive systems and support livelihoods** through provision of essential life-sustaining agricultural livelihood restoring and safeguarding support packages to vulnerable households according to the seasonal calendar of interventions.

“The area was attacked by armed groups and we had to leave with the rest of the population and walk for six hours to Selouqi, from 3am until we arrived in the afternoon. This journey added to our suffering as my children were severely malnourished and some were close to anaemia. It was an indescribable situation. After we returned to the centre, Plan International’s psychological and social support workers took me to Dar Al-Salam Hospital, where I received medical care, treatment and nutrition. Fortunately, my children recovered. Later, we received some money from the organisation in the form of a voucher. I used it to buy charcoal, sage and other small items to trade. We were overjoyed because life was not over.”

Marwa, 28 years old, displaced mother

“We have no idea what will happen in the future but we hope the war ends and everything calms down so we can go back home.”

Muna, 13, East Sudan



Plan International has been responding to the refugee crisis in Chad since May 2023, with an office in Adre focusing on education and child protection in emergencies. Our mobile child protection units provide safe places for children to learn. The units offer essential protection services, including psychological first aid, recreational activities and socialisation.

## Annex

Plan International Sudan (PIS) has been operating for more than 45 years and currently operates in 7 States with over 160 staff (98% are Sudanese) in partnership with 12 local NGOs. Programmatic operations are in North Darfur, South and North Kordofan, Kassala, El Gedaref, and White Nile States, with a coordination office in Port Sudan, Red Sea State. Key sectors encompass Child Protection and Education in Emergencies, NFIs, Food Security and Livelihoods, Health, Nutrition & SRHR, Peace Building/Social Cohesion, WASH, CVA with the promotion of gender equality a strong component across all sectors. Plan has presence in Egypt, Ethiopia, Chad, South Sudan, Uganda, CAR and is coordinating a regional response plan for Sudanese refugees.

For any inquiries, comments or requests for additional information related to this briefing, kindly contact Davis Makori at [Davis.Makori@plan-international.org](mailto:Davis.Makori@plan-international.org)



**Until we are all equal**

## About Plan International

Plan International is an independent development and humanitarian organization that advances children's rights and equality for girls. We believe in the power and potential of every child but know this is often suppressed by poverty, violence, exclusion and discrimination. And it is girls who are most affected.

Working together with children, young people, supporters and partners, we strive for a just world, tackling the root causes of the challenges girls and vulnerable children face. We support children's rights from birth until they reach adulthood and we enable children to prepare for and respond to crises and adversity. We drive changes in practice and policy at local, national and global levels using our reach, experience and knowledge. For over 85 years, we have rallied other determined optimists to transform the lives of all children in more than 80 countries.

**We won't stop until we are all equal.**

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