



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Sudan Situation Report #14 30 November 2023

Thank you for your continued engagement! We look forward to meeting you at the next meeting shall be hosted on 14 December, 11:00am-12:30pm (GMT+2:00).

In case of any questions or to be added to the mailing list, kindly reach out to: co_sud_external_relation@wfp.org



© WFP/ One-year old Ariam receives nutritional supplements to prevent malnutrition at Ahemd Gasim nutrition center in Port Sudan.

SITUATION UPDATE

On 26 October, the warring parties resumed talks in Jeddah. Nearly two weeks into the peace talks, a Statement of Commitments was formulated between the SAF and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), aimed at safeguarding civilians and ensuring unimpeded humanitarian access. As an extension of this initiative, a Humanitarian Forum for Sudan was launched, under the leadership of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs— with SAF communicating the suspension of any movement into RSF-controlled areas that include Darfur, Kordofan and Khartoum soon thereafter.

Since the outbreak of the conflict, aid convoys have faced threats, roadblocks, politicization, financial exploitation, increased checkpoints, and bureaucratic hurdles while navigating conflicting parties with different agendas and interests. Intensified military clashes and bombardments across Khartoum had made safe access impracticable for the past three months, with a convoy of 35 trucks going en route from *Shendi* to *Karari* on 18 November.

Efforts to use the *Kosti-El Obeid* corridor have faced extreme roadblocks, with drivers of five trucks returning from Kadugli experiencing harassment and assault before being released to *Dilling* for unknown reasons. A fleet of 25 trucks dispatched from *Kosti* to *Al Lait*, North Darfur, was instructed to await in a safe location due to similar challenges. Tensions between *Salamat* and *Habbaniya* tribes in South Darfur, along with RSF gaining control of *Nyala*, South Darfur, have prompted prepositioning of stocks in *Kosti* and Chad in anticipation of potential displacement waves. Movement of the sixth convoy to West Darfur from eastern Chad was delayed to 17 November, due to security concerns.

During the reporting period, it was discovered that a WFP

In Numbers

4.85 million (unique individuals) assisted since the onset of the crisis

1.26 million assisted in October and **1.8 million** in November

USD 414 million required to maintain operational from Dec 2023 to May 2024

Highlights

- Amid challenges to leveraging the *Kosti-El Obeid* corridor, WFP successfully delivered its sixth and seventh convoy of assistance to West and Central Darfur, targeting over 205,000.
- After nearly four since August, WFP again reached into Khartoum, providing assistance to nearly 116,000.
- Despite steady increase in the provision of nutritional support, 89.5 percent of WFP's funding requirements for nutrition for 2024 remains to be met.
- WFP is preparing to recommence its school-based programs once schools reopen in January 2024, targeting nearly 700,000 students across Blue Nile, Gedaref, Gezira, Kassala, Red Sea and White Nile.
- Contracts for provision of value vouchers and mobile money transfers are being concluded in Khartoum and West Darfur to expand coverage of cash-based assistance
- A Third-Party Monitoring firm is being onboarded, with arrangements for remote outcome monitoring in process.

truck, initially stranded in North Kordofan since the beginning of the crisis, was looted. Despite close monitoring of GPS tracking, it was observed that the truck had been moved to *Tina* (Sudan-Chad Border) by unknown individuals, leading to its declaration as stolen. Lootings during a convoy movement from *Kosti* to North Darfur and armed assailants overrunning *Ed Daein* warehouse have been recently reported. Furthermore, another truck earmarked for South Sudan, stranded in South Kordofan since the conflict's onset, was also reportedly looted, resulting in the seizure of 40MTs of sorghum.



PROGRAMMATIC PROGRESS

Following the resumption of operations in May, WFP has successfully delivered essential food aid, cash transfers, and nutritional assistance to over 4.8 million individuals across Sudan. In the month of November, WFP assisted over 1.8 million people. WFP is slated to reach 5.6 million by the end of 2023, with a substantive markdown attributed to access, security and funding constraints.

WFP Sudan undertook its sixth convoy to *Geneina* reaching nearly 95,000 individuals across *Mornei*, *Khair Wajid*, *Tarshana*, *Mukshasha*, *Umtajok* and *Murayat* at *Kereniek* locality. The seventh convoy, carrying 1,097 mt of food and nutritional commodities was dispatched on 26 November,

targeting over 110,000 individuals. Since the onset of the conflict, WFP has reached 360,000 IDPs and residents in West Darfur. An interagency assessment was also undertaken to *Geneina* township and *Ardamata*. The assessment found a significant increase in the number of traders, variety of goods for sale, available services, and number of people accessing the market, as well as a decline in the prices of essential items, such as sorghum, vegetable oil, and pulses, since the initiation of WFP food assistance.

On 21 November, a convoy comprising 34 trucks reached the outskirts of *Omdurman* and *Al Thawra* in Khartoum, initiating distributions for over 107,000 beneficiaries. Simultaneously, WFP commenced the distribution of nutritional commodities in two health centers, in *Jabal Awlia* and *Mayo*, benefitting over 9,000 children under-five and Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women. Despite escalated fighting preventing access to Khartoum since August, this development provides crucial life-saving support to individuals facing acute food shortages.

Over 635,000 beneficiaries received nutritional support since the start of the crisis, with Emergency Blanket Supplementary Feeding commencing in November 2023 with the dispatch of 450MTs of Plumpy Doz. There has been a steady increase in the treatment of beneficiaries from about 10,000 in July to 103,000 children and pregnant and breastfeeding women in October and by mid-November. In tandem, with convoys for general food assistance, WFP Sudan reached nearly 17,400 beneficiaries as part of emergency blanket supplementary feeding as part of the sixth convoy to West Darfur. In total, about 30,000 have been reached as such from late October to mid-November. Meanwhile, as part of the formulation of the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, 4.7 million are expected to require nutrition assistance in 2024. This comprises of 2.8 million moderately acutely malnourished children under five and 1.2 million Pregnant and Breastfeeding women. Yet, despite the severity of needs on-ground, 89.5 percent of WFP's budget for nutrition for 2024 remains to be met.

WFP Sudan is preparing to recommence its school-based programs once schools reopen in January 2024, targeting nearly 700,000 students across Blue Nile, Gedaref, Gezira, Kassala, Red Sea and White Nile. Nearly 75 percent of them will benefit from a Home-Grown School Feeding approach.

As part of expanding the portfolio of provision of cash-based assistance, WFP reached 90,000 beneficiaries by November across Kassala, Red Sea, White Nile and Blue Nile. In Khartoum, WFP is concluding procurement processes for two retailers to provide value vouchers to 1,000 households. It concluded rapid feasibility assessments on market and supply chain functionality, security, access, IT infrastructure, and community acceptance of value vouchers in *Kulbus*, West Darfur and completed twelve retailer contracts thereafter. Simultaneously, WFP expanded its scope of conditional cash-based assistance to as many as 13,910 individuals across Kassala, Gedaref and White Nile enabling creation of general community assets, development of agricultural infrastructure, installation of solar energy systems, provision of livelihood skills training, and enhancement of food processing capabilities, among others.

Under the auspices of its Smallholder Agricultural Market Support, WFP Sudan has been working to deliver trainings on post-harvest loss management across Kassala, Gedaref, Blue Nile, White Nile as well as the two non-government-controlled areas. WFP has also procured mini-tractors for



WFP cash distributions at IDP gathering sites in Port Sudan operations

ten women farmer groups in Gedaref, and is constructing two community warehouses across Gedaref and Kassala, to bolster aggregation by smallholders. The Emergency Wheat Production Project with the African Development Bank has resumed its operations, targeting nearly 170,000 smallholders, with registration and delivery of subsidized seeds and fertilizers nearing completion, and provision of extension services already underway.

In select locations, WFP organized sessions on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Community Feedback Mechanism for new Cooperating Partners and focal points. Key messages and Frequently Asked Questions were formulated and disseminated over 2,500 Information, Education and Communication materials across Kassala and Gezira. Nearly 140 community and stakeholder engagement activities were successfully conducted, reaching more than 150,000 individuals across Gezira, Kassala, and Red Sea. Over 3,100 feedback cases were received through WFP's digital helpdesk, both at registration and distribution points, as well as via the WFP hotline. Of these, 67 percent were submitted by women, and 88 percent were effectively resolved. The majority of cases pertained to request for services, encompassing requests for the inclusion of specific localities, groups, or individuals.

Trainings were provided to field-based staff on Post Distribution Monitoring and monitoring issue escalation intakes, while a ticketing system is being developed to automate escalation of issues for effective case management. A Third-Party Monitoring firm is being onboarded, with arrangements for remote outcome monitoring in process.

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

WFP Sudan hosts a stock of approximately 31,753MTs across Port Sudan, Blue Nile, Gezira, White Nile, Gedaref, and eastern Chad falling short of the requirements by over 365,000MTs. That said, 12,720MTs of locally procured sorghum and 10,000MTs of wheat flour from Ukraine are anticipated by end-year. With a storage capacity of nearly 172,000MTs, an expansion of 8,000MTs in eastern Chad is planned by mid-2024.

To date, as much as 132,984MTs have been transported to various locations since the onset of the crisis. Of these, over 5,000MTs of various supplies have been sent to challenging and remote locations such as *Karari* in Khartoum and *Al Lait* in North Darfur. A convoy of 1,181.78MTs departed *Bor*, South Sudan to Manga port to *Kauda*, expected to arrive

during 6-7 December. WFP Sudan is also currently preparing for the delivery of the eighth and ninth convoys into West and Central Darfur from eastern Chad within early December, with 4,073 MTs already moved. WFP Sudan is also proactively pursuing means to source wheat and wheat flour from Ethiopia, with arrival of date bars from Libya postponed until further notice.

The delivery of 15,000.4MTs of sorghum from local commercial suppliers has been concluded, with the delivery of another 4,150MTs of sorghum sourced from smallholder farmers underway. Although, persistent access barriers in Nyala continues to impede fumigation of 361MTs of sorghum from smallholders therein. As much as 9,088.2MTs seeds has already been delivered to wheat-producing states targeted under the Emergency Wheat Production Project with the African Development Bank, with delivery of 6,850.15MTs Diammonium Phosphate and 14,108.75MTs urea commenced. Additionally, twenty smallholder Farmer Organizations have been registered into WFP Sudan's vendor roster to facilitate procurement of 9,200MTs of sorghum directly from smallholders towards the rollout of Home-Grown School Feeding. Logistics capacity assessments are to be rolled out to assess the accessibility and capacities of storage and warehousing facilities.

CLUSTERS AND COMMON SERVICES

The Logistics Cluster provided storage services for 9,446m³ of supplies at four locations in *Port Sudan*, *Wad Madani*, *Kosti*, and *Gedaref*, and received 2,338m³ and dispatched 2,223m³ during October alone. Although the Cluster facilitated inter-agency convoys since late August to most affected locations across Sudan, the recently planned humanitarian convoy movements to reach Kordofan and Darfur were postponed due to deteriorating security situation and challenges in securing travel permits and necessary clearances. In the meanwhile, additional entry points and access routes from *Adre* to *Beida* and *Mogororo* to *Forbaranga* were identified and established from Chad into West and Central Darfur. A Concept Paper exploring viable border crossing points into to Sudan, notably from

Aweil and *Panakuak* in South Sudan to South Darfur, South Kordofan and West Kordofan is under finalization.

Under the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, connectivity services are currently being provided in Port Sudan, Kassala and *Kosti* and planned for *Wad Madani* and *Gedaref*. In Port Sudan, the Cluster is providing connectivity to 597 users from 37 partners across 28 sites. In Kassala, the Cluster provides connectivity to 70 users from 8 partners across 4 sites. The Cluster conducted its Annual User Satisfaction Survey to refine its service provision, noting an over user satisfaction of 88 percent. The users scored internet connectivity at 88 percent, customer support (ICT helpdesk) at 95 percent and security communications services at 81 percent.

Since the onset of the crisis, the UN Humanitarian Air Services (UNHAS) has facilitated the transportation of 3,779 passengers and 18.2 MTs of light cargo through 182 flights in support of 69 distinct user organizations, of which 2,605 passengers and 447 passengers were respectively transported along the airbridges with Nairobi and Amman. While the denial of entry to individuals bearing UN Laissez- Passer and delays in clearance of passenger manifests continues to affect UNHAS, overflight clearances for Port Sudan have been secured until 10 December and an extension request for the period of 11 December 2023 to 31 March 2024 is being processed. The new request includes aircraft from Amman, Djibouti, and Ethiopia, comprising a total of 260 seats, to be promptly deployed to Port Sudan in the event of evacuation needs. Overflight permits for Ethiopia, Djibouti, Yemen, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are readily approved on a month-to-month basis without encountering any obstacles. The Jet A1 fuel supplier in Port Sudan informed of a supply shortage, with the Government agreeing thereafter to reserve 50,000 liters for UNHAS operations in November. Additional stocks of 25 million liters are expected to dock soon, with a similar allocation anticipated for UNHAS in December. UNHAS is in the process of initiating internal flights, starting with Kassala. The commencement is contingent on prevailing conditions, with a request for an updated Security Risk management has been formally submitted.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR CONTIUED SUPPORT



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