

NRC's operations in Sudan

Humanitarian overview

The Sudan humanitarian crisis continued to spiral in 2022, largely due to conflict, political instability, economic hardship and natural disasters. By mid-2022, the country reached unprecedented levels of displacement with over half a million people displaced by violence since January 2021. Attacks targeted villages, displacement camps and farmland, triggering a cascade of humanitarian needs.

Across the country, and especially in conflict-affected states like Darfur, the number of acutely food-insecure people is reaching an all-time high: 11.7 million people are estimated to be facing acute hunger during the lean season June to September 2022. The crisis also severely impacts the 1.1 million refugees living in Sudan after fleeing from South Sudan, Eritrea, Syria, Ethiopia, and Central African Republic.

In August, floods swept across 16 of the 18 states of the country, affecting over 279,000 people, both Sudanese and refugees. In 2022, humanitarian partners aim to support 10.9 million vulnerable people, but by mid-2022, only 20 per cent of the Sudan Humanitarian Response Plan was funded.

NRC's operation

NRC's objective in Sudan is to contribute to the survival, protection and dignity of conflict- and displacement-affected people while helping them to achieve durable solutions. We seek to respond to emergencies in the aftermath of violence and disaster and to tackle long-term displacement by promoting durable solutions through impactful programs and advocacy. We stand up for people forced to flee and promote and defend displaced people's rights and dignity.

NRC Sudan

Established	2004-2009, 2020
International staff	35
National staff	226



NRC Sudan

Country office

Khartoum

Areas of operation

Gedaref, Khartoum, North Darfur, West Darfur, South Kordofan and White Nile



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Camp management

In displacement camps and non-camp settings, we work together with community structures, local authorities, and humanitarian partners to support the overall coordination of assistance and address humanitarian gaps. We help reduce duplication of ongoing interventions, highlight priority needs, and provide evidence-based information to assist response planning and service provision to displaced people. Our teams:

- establish and run mobile teams to facilitate outreach information sessions where displaced Sudanese can learn about services and be referred for assistance
- establish and support site committees as well as work with existing community structures to disseminate information and solve problems in their communities
- support local site management coordination mechanisms, including through meetings between relevant stakeholders to highlight needs and gaps
- support local coordination mechanisms and provide capacity building, training and support to community representation and humanitarian structures

Education

In coordination with the Ministry of Education, we support formal and non-formal education to ensure that displacement-affected children, adolescents and youth enjoy access to appropriate, quality schooling in safe and protected environments. Our teams:

- provide basic access to formal and community-based education at primary and lower-secondary levels
- build the capacity of teachers and education personnel in core teaching and psychosocial skills
- support formal schools to increase their absorption capacity for the integration of displacement-affected out-of-school children and adolescents
- support displaced and out-of-school children to catch up through alternative learning, including catch-up classes and bridging programmes, such as language and literacy classes

Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)

We help displacement-affected communities access legal documentation, national identity cards, birth registration, and marriage registration, so they have better access to services. We strengthen mechanisms of dispute resolution at the local level to help resolve property and land issues. Our teams:

- create awareness through the provision of tailored information sessions – in-person and digitally – on access to legal documents and dispute resolution
- provide one-on-one counselling and legal assistance to support displacement-affected communities to enforce their rights to access legal documents and dispute resolutions
- support collaborative dispute resolution of conflicts through capacity building of local authorities and community structures
- advocate for displaced people's land and property rights as the co-chair of the housing, land, and property (HLP) Task Force

Livelihoods and food security

We support displacement-affected people and vulnerable host communities to help them meet basic food needs in areas with high levels of food insecurity. We aim to increase access to income-earning opportunities through small-scale food production and smallholders' access to markets. Our teams:

- support vulnerable, food insecure IDPs and refugees to have access to healthy, balanced food through cash-based interventions
- provide refugee and vulnerable host community youth with the soft and technical skills for demand-driven small business projects, thus fostering self-reliance and promoting economic inclusion
- assist IDP families with safe access to small backyard gardens and engage them in gardening activities, targeted to address diet diversification
- support displacement-affected communities with improved natural resource management

Shelter and settlements

We provide access to adequate housing for displacement-affected people. We support site preparation and allocation, distribute and pitch tents, help repair damaged shelters and build durable ones, while training communities in basic carpentry skills. We provide technical support for flood mitigation and distribute essential relief and household items. Our team:

- responds to inadequate shelter conditions and provides essential household items (primarily in refugee camps in eastern Sudan)
- provides technical support for flood mitigation measures, including targeted provision of non-food item kits to help keep refugees safe from extreme weather conditions
- distributes core relief items and emergency shelter kits
- supports construction of durable shelters to provide refugees and IDPs protection from the elements, ensuring most materials are locally sourced

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion (WASH)

We supported Sudan's efforts to promote a community-led sanitation approach by providing household latrines and subsidised sanitary services and by assisting community-led hygiene campaigns. We seek to engage local resources (people, businesses and authorities) in the provision of WASH services. Our teams:

- provide and/or upgrade water supply facilities and support good hygiene practices
- provide access to improved sanitation and hand-washing facilities in or nearby schools
- support site management teams in cholera preparedness across displacement sites and in improvement of communal infrastructure, along with hygiene awareness raising
- distribute hygiene kits and train families on how to use the hygiene kits through hygiene education promotion in communities and schools

Emergency response

After a shock, NRC dispatches a field team to affected area as early as possible to survey needs and lead or contribute to a rapid response. This can include food, shelter, water, essential items through a cash-based assistance to help families cover their basic needs for two months, until a longer-term solution can be found in coordination with other humanitarian partners.

Advocacy and policy

We advocate for more rights and protection for displaced populations. We press for better assistance and for decision-makers to find lasting solutions to displacement. We invest in consultations, field research, and day-to-day engagement with communities to shed light on neglected humanitarian and protection issues. Our positions and policy recommendations are informed by the reality on the ground and by the people we serve.

Cash and markets

We design and deliver comprehensive, emergency cash responses to ensure that displacement-affected populations acquire their preferred items with choice and dignity. As part of our efforts to integrate a markets-based approach in our programming, we empower local public and private actors to take the lead in responding to the needs of their communities and to benefit host communities' struggling economies.

Digital modes of assistance

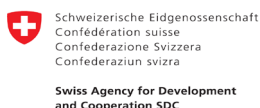
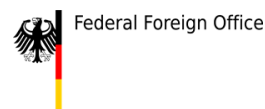
We developed a digital hub to allow a two-way communication channel between NRC and displacement-affected populations. This enables people in need to raise questions and trigger emergency alerts, communicate their needs and obtain referrals for specialised services. They may also provide feedback and voice complaints.

Partnerships and collaboration

We coordinate through the cluster system in Sudan, the Refugee Consultation Forum, and the INGO Forum. Our approach to coordination goes beyond participation, as we share our knowledge and expertise. We co-chair the housing, land, and property rights sub-sector and the education sector's assessment working group. We invest in state-level coordination in each of our areas of operation.

Building upon the local partnerships that we already have in place, we are further developing our approach to building partnerships with local organisations. We aim to ensure collaboration with strategic local NGOs across all projects.

NRC Sudan is grateful for the generous support from our donors:



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