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COVID-19  
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# UN – SUDAN ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT for 2021



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SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS

July 2022



*Cotton, stability, and 24,000 opportunities in Sudan's White Nile © UNDP/Sudan*

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# UNITED NATIONS SUDAN





## Foreword

For Sudan, 2021 was a turbulent year. For much of 2021, the Government of Sudan concentrated on the country's transition to democracy, and the United Nations supported efforts to advance a more stable and democratic Sudan. Momentum was sustained for the first 10 months of the year on issues such as the drafting of a new constitution and preparations for elections. Initiatives to support vulnerable communities (e.g., internally displaced people or IDPs, refugees and conflict-affected populations) continued and key achievements were unlocked towards advancing the development of the nation.

In 2021, the UN adopted the Common Agenda as a framework for accelerating achievements towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The Common Agenda underscores that achieving our common goals is dependent on our willingness and ability to work together as an international community with a foundation of solidarity and mutual trust. With this approach and understanding, we will collectively realize a better more equitable future for the people of Sudan.

The partnership between the UN and the Government of Sudan remains key to advancing the political, security, humanitarian and socioeconomic development of the country, particularly in critical

areas such as the protection of civilians, human rights, the rule of law and climate security.

In 2021, the UN in Sudan made a concerted effort to address the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 through the provision of life-saving humanitarian assistance, recovery support, including macroeconomic financial stimuli to support the most vulnerable people, foster sustainable development and strengthen multilateral and regional responses. Social cohesion was promoted, and trust was built through social dialogue and political engagement, as well as investments in community-led resilience and response systems.

2021 also saw progress on issues of human rights. The Government of Sudan, with the support of the UN, reviewed its human rights progress against its commitments in preparation for the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) cycle (February 2021). The UN worked in partnership with civil society organizations, including through the UPR process, to improve the enabling environment for civic society. In 2021, the capacity of the Government was strengthened to improve engagement in the UPR through efforts such as UN advocacy for and assistance in establishing a standing National Mechanism for Reporting (NMFR).



### **In 2021, the UN family in Sudan provided:**

- Food and nutrition assistance provided to 8.9 million internally displaced people, refugees and residents.
- A total of 2,271 feddans (equal to 954 hectares) were cultivated thanks to technical packages, providing advanced agricultural inputs and services and the creation of 1,438 new jobs.
- The UN provided 425,000 individuals with 1,300 environmentally friendly for vector surveillance and management.
- A 63-meter-tall wind turbine was constructed in Northern State as part of a commercial-scale wind-energy project that will provide power to 14,000 people.
- The UN harnessed its global expertise in food procurement and procured over 77,000 MT of wheat on the international market on behalf of the Government of Sudan to help address wheat shortages within the country and also worked on a technical plan to support the Government to revive its railway networks.
- 129,946 beneficiaries received improved seeds.
- 14,023 farmers profited from early-maturing and drought-resistant sorghum seed varieties.
- 87 solar water supply systems were built and refurbished by the UN, providing carbon dioxide-free solar water sources for 310,000 people.
- 1,298,916 infants (81 percent) received three doses of the pentavalent vaccine and 1,289,285 infants (80 percent) received at least one dose of the measles vaccine.
- Despite the complex situation, Sudan's health system (particularly the immunization system) was strengthened to ensure the continuity of lifesaving health services for 18 million girls, boys and women. This includes more than 1 million children under-five accessing integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI) services.
- 5.8 million children under-five years of age were screened for malnutrition (50 per cent girls). A total of 289,000 children were found to be suffering from severe acute malnutrition and treated through 1,753 outpatients therapeutic programme (OTPs) centers.
- 717,953 people received assistance in health and nutrition programmes.
- Around 1.2 million children aged 6-59 months, and pregnant and lactating women were assisted through preventative and curative nutrition activities in 16 states across Sudan.
- 64,464 medical consultations, 4,296 family planning services and 8,131 sexual and reproductive health services were provided, benefitting 4,390 pregnant women.
- Some 2.4 million people were provided with access to health services (including 570,000 refugees).
- 77,377 Ethiopian refugees were provided with access to primary health care services.
- 27,843 vulnerable people were assessed for malnutrition (including 5.8 million children under the age of five and 3,347 pregnant and lactating women).
- Over 1.76 million people in Sudan were reached with behavior change campaigns that had key messages on handwashing, water-handling and disease prevention.
- Over 740,000 people gained access to sustainable safe drinking water.
- Some 2.6 million people (including 570,000 refugees and 20,500 IDPs) were provided with access to sanitation facilities such as latrines, washing units and waste disposal units.
- More than 1.2 million children received their right to education through flexible and open learning systems.
- 1.9 million school children supported with on-site school meals and/or alternative take-home rations.
- More than 41,608 people were reached by gender-based violence (GBV) awareness-raising sessions.
- A total of 2.7 million families in 18 Sudanese states were registered with the Sudan Family Support Programmes (SFSP), helping cushion the impact of economic and structural reforms.
- 10,070 Internally displaced persons (IDPs) were taught about their legal rights, whilst 1,064 refugees received legal aid and legal counseling. 4,063 IDPs received paralegal support and 75 IDPs received formal court representation.
- Some 182,000 people benefitted from strengthen community stabilization for long-term solutions, including peacebuilding.



- More than 254,000 people and 49,000 people were reached with productive safety nets and post-harvest loss mitigation projects, respectively.
- For the first time in ten years, the UN agencies were able to access conflict-affected communities in the five non-governmental areas controlled by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North El Hilu in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States.
- The UN provided services to the Government's Sudan Family Support Programme (SFSP) for the delivery of cash transfers to Sudanese families

By working together with our partners in civil society, the international community and in Government, the United Nations has been able to overcome significant

challenges and deliver results for the people in Sudan. We have done so while ensuring that those affected by our initiatives are consulted and that our collective efforts are evidence-based with a focus on delivering real change for the most marginalized people in the country.

Mrs. Khardiata LO NDIAYE, The Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General, the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (DSRSG) on behalf of the United Nations Country Team in Sudan, I extend my gratitude and thanks to all our partners for their support and efforts to serve the people of Sudan. I am looking forward to renewed partnerships and commitment in 2022 to meet our challenges head-on and to multiply our achievements for peace, planet, and prosperity

# UNITED NATIONS SUDAN



# UN Sudan Country Team



*Sudan kicks off second response campaign against polio outbreak @WHO.*

## 19

UN agencies signed the United Nations Development Assistant Framework in 2018 and have worked collectively towards the achievement of the five UNDAF outcomes. Programme Agencies under the Cooperation Framework

The Government of Sudan's development strategy and the country's commitment to achieving the SDGs are strongly supported by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Sudan and drive UNCT cooperation with the Government.

The UN's presence in Sudan consists of 22 resident and four nonresident country presence programmes, as well as the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) and the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General/Resident Coordinator / Humanitarian Coordinator (DSRSG/RC/HC) lead the UN's work in Sudan.

The United Nations is guided by the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018–2021 (which was further extended until the end of 2023) for Sudan and Sudan's National Development Plan 2021-2023, which has the central goal of leave no one behind and highlights the transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



# Key development partners of the UN development system in the country

## UN agencies and Implementing Partners

The 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals require the forging and strengthening of a wide range of partnerships within Sudan, as well as regionally and globally. For Sudan to make meaningful progress towards the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, it is essential that the country leverages all potential sources of finance, including domestic, international, public, and private. Since the revolution and the formation of the Transitional Government, Sudan has made significant progress in the normalization of its relations with the international community and the forging of new partnerships to support its sustainable development.

The launch of the Sudan Partnership Forum on 9 September 2021 by the Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok Al-Kinani signaled a new chapter in the coordination of economic and development assistance under the ownership and leadership of the Government of Sudan. The Forum aims to

foster alignment on planning and delivery of development support against national priorities and is in line with established global principles of effective development cooperation. The Forum is supported by the Aid Coordination Unit in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, which will serve as the Technical Secretariat.

In December 2020, Sudan was removed from the United States of America's list of State Sponsors of Terrorism. In addition, the country cleared arrears with international financial institutions (IFIs), which resulted in Sudan reaching Decision Point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Country (HIPC) Initiative on 29 June 2021, enabling access to critical financial resources.

The military takeover in October 2021 has been a setback for joint development cooperation planning between the international community and the Government of Sudan

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## Chapter 1: Key developments in the country and the regional context



### Political context in Sudan

The 2021 represented the third anniversary of the country's revolution and political and democratic transition. However, 2021 was marked by multiple domestic crises, including political tensions, intercommunal conflicts, deepening economic and other inequalities, rising unemployment, devastating floods and continuing popular protests for democratic reforms.

These challenges reached a critical point following a military takeover on 25 October, when the armed forces detained the Prime Minister and several civilian ministers, declared a state of emergency, and suspended key articles of the 2019 Constitutional Declaration. This takeover was met with country-wide protests, civil disobedience campaigns and general strikes that were suppressed through the use of excessive force by the security forces.

The UN Secretary-General and other members of the international community denounced the military takeover, as well as the excessive violence against Sudanese protestors who had mobilized to condemn

the coup. General Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan invoked emergency legislation to suspend phone and internet services across the country, which were only partially restored on 18 November 2021. Many international donors responded to the takeover by pausing or suspending funding towards much-needed development efforts.

A political agreement was reached on 21 November between General Al-Burhan and Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok. The agreement was met with strong skepticism among many Sudanese, illustrated by regular ongoing "march of millions" protests in Khartoum. Following continued opposition to the agreement and ongoing protests in Khartoum, Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok resigned on 2 January 2022, which further exacerbated the political crisis and cast doubt on the future of the 2020 Juba Peace Agreement. Since then, UNITAMS began an initiative to provide mediation efforts via its good offices role to try and resolve the political deadlock, but the situation remains highly volatile.



Since the military takeover in October 2021, the full re-engagement process with the international community and economic reforms have been affected by potential political conflict. The splintering of civilian political coalitions through the detention of main political figures, opposition by civilians and diasporas condemning the military takeover, tensions within the security sector, and continued military control of certain economic sectors all contribute to a volatile political situation that obstructs any economic development initiatives in the country. The country has entered a spiral of uncertainty. The effective functioning of government institutions has come under threat. The security situation remains tense and unless the widespread economic and political concerns are addressed, protests and civil unrest are likely to continue. Additional risks stem from hyperinflation and the coronavirus-related healthcare crisis.

The Consultations: In its initial five weeks, UNIT AMS bilaterally consulted with a wide range of Sudanese stakeholders: government, military, political parties, armed movements, civil society, women's groups, resistance committees, youth, Sufi leaders, business community, nomads, diaspora and other state and non-state actors. Representation of women in delegations was strongly encouraged. In addition, UNITAMS convened meetings with over 100 women's rights advocates. During our consultations, UNITAMS held over 110 meetings, attended by 800 people - one

third of them women. UNITAMS has also analyzed over 80 written proposals.

Each consultation meeting was structured around a common set of questions, and notes were taken. The same set of questions was posed to all actors during each of the meetings. The questions were formulated on the basis of topics mentioned in initiatives received from Sudanese stakeholders in the weeks leading up to the commencement of the consultations, an indication of what, in their view, were some of the most pressing issues facing Sudan.

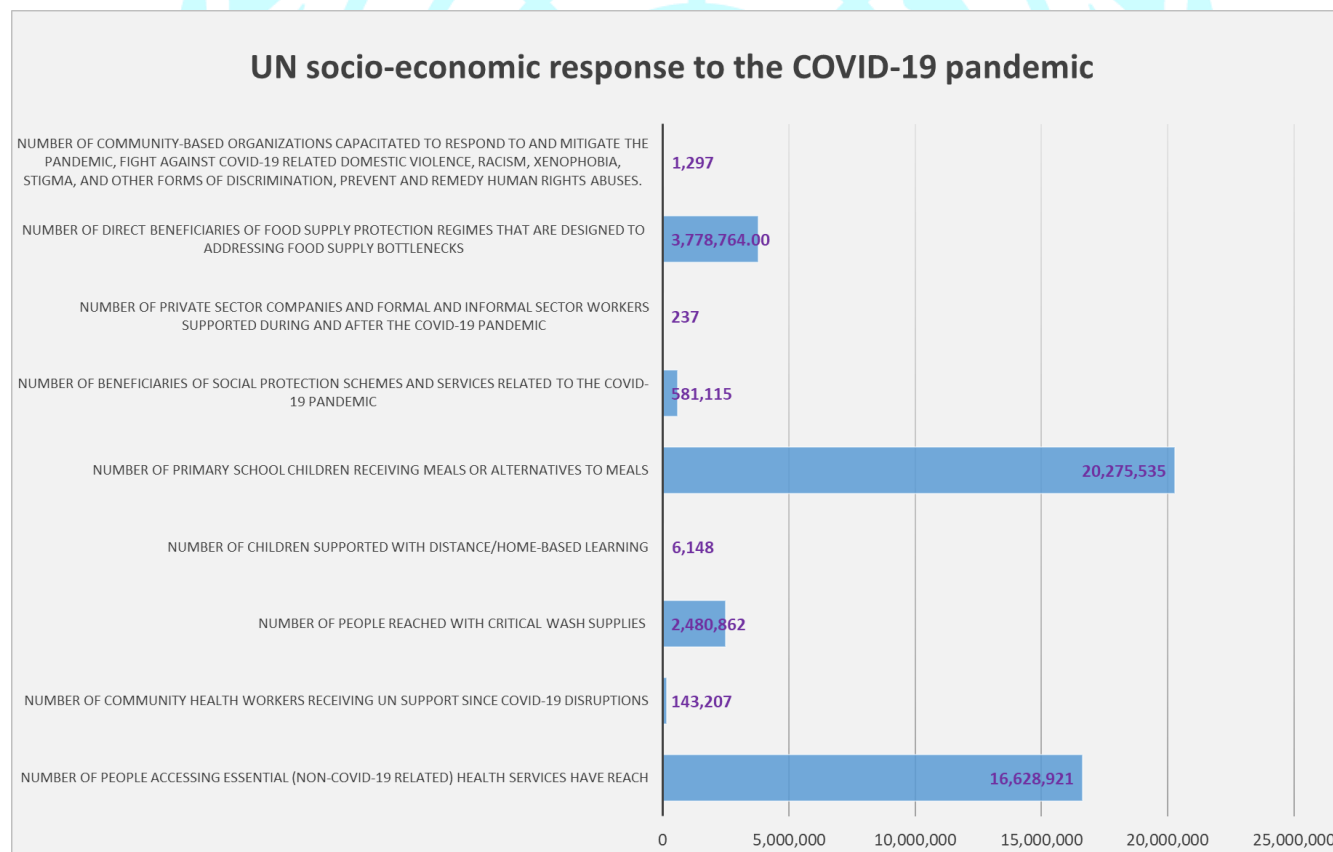
### **Outcome of consultation**

An overwhelming number of participants underscored the urgency of stopping the killings and violence in the context of the ongoing anti-military protests. Lifting the state of emergency and respecting the right to free expression and peaceful assembly were emphasized as requirements for creating a conducive environment for a political process. Ending arbitrary arrests and detention, releasing those arbitrarily detained, including political detainees, as well as holding thorough and independent investigations into incidents of violence, including rape, were also highlighted as immediate priorities. The importance of ensuring accountability at all levels and ending impunity, including at senior leadership level, were raised as key concerns



## Chapter 2: UN socio-economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic

### Key indicators of the UN socio-economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic



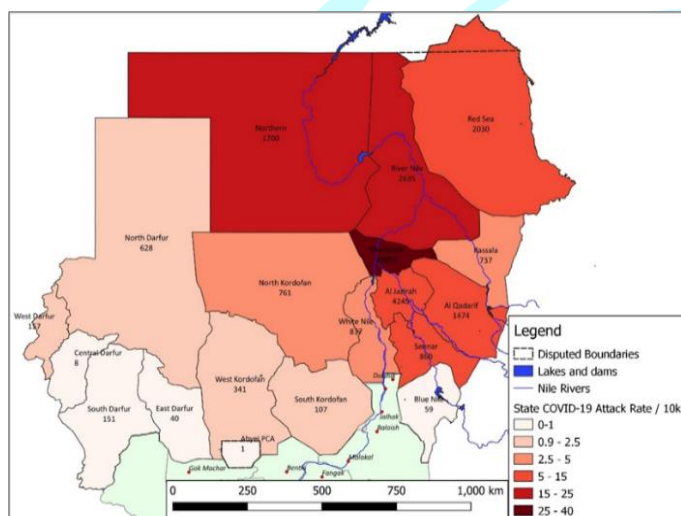
UN support in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Sudan is structured around the following five streams:

- Protecting the health system itself during the COVID-19 crisis.
- Helping protect people through social protection and basic services.
- Protecting jobs, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and vulnerable workers in the informal sector through economic recovery.
- Helping guide the necessary surge in fiscal and financial stimulus to make the macroeconomic framework work for the most vulnerable and foster sustainable development and strengthen multilateral and regional responses.
- Promoting social cohesion, building trust through social dialogue and political engagement, and

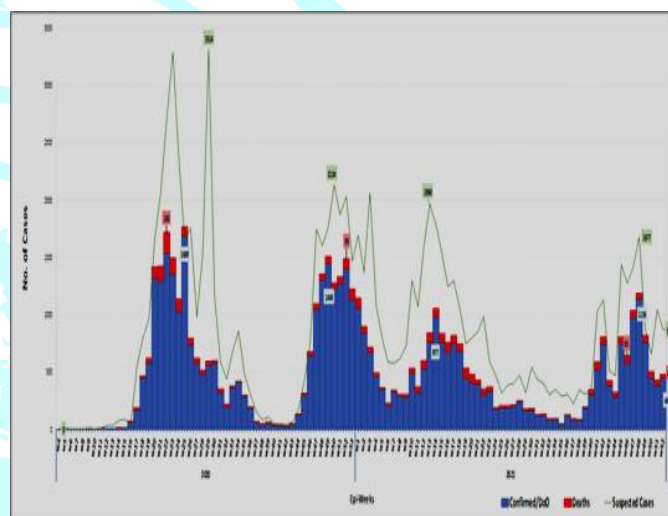
investing in community-led resilience and response systems.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had heavy economic, social and psychological impacts on the Sudanese population, including the loss of lives, reduction in work and economic activity, increased expenses, mental health issues and changes in lifestyle associated with the pandemic, which affected all population groups.





Distribution of COVID-19 Attack rates per 10,000 population by State, Sudan 2020- 2021



Distribution of COVID-19 suspected cases, confirmed cases and deaths by epidemiological weeks, Sudan 2020-2021

According to Sudan's Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) as of 31 December 2021, there were 88,205 COVID-19 suspected cases reported, of which 46,664 (53.0 percent) tested positive, and 3,590 associated deaths. The case fatality rate was 7.7 percent (Table 1-Figure 1). There have been four waves of cases in the country (Figure 2).

States	Total Confirmed	Cumulative Deaths	CFR%
Khartoum	29324	1225	4.2
Gezira	4421	630	14.3
Sinnar	869	140	16.1
River Nile	2685	514	19.1
Kassala	738	96	13.0
Gedarif	1502	182	12.1
Northern	1702	215	12.6
Red Sea	2037	127	6.2
White Nile	844	117	13.9
Blue Nile	61	5	8.2
North Kordofan	764	107	14.0
West Kordofan	341	24	7.0
South Kordofan	108	6	5.6
North Darfur	630	163	25.9
South Darfur	152	17	11.2
West Darfur	158	10	6.3
Central Darfur	8	3	37.5
East Darfur	53	9	17.0
Unknown	267	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>46664</b>	<b>3590</b>	<b>7.69</b>

Distribution of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths by State, Sudan 2020- 2021

Khartoum State represented 62.8 percent of the total confirmed cases. Across the country, 1,043 health staff tested positive for COVID-19, Sudan representing 2.2 percent of the total reported confirmed cases with a 64.3 percent positivity rate.

Male patients represent 58.6 percent of the total confirmed cases, and the 20-29.9 age group is the most affected, representing 19.5 percent. Nearly half (49 percent) of the total confirmed cases have been in patients less than 45 years old, whereas 74.0 percent of reported deaths are among patients over 59 years of age.

Vaccines for COVID-19 initially arrived in Sudan through the COVAX mechanism on 5 March 2021. Following a slow distribution and uptake of the initial vaccine, additional vaccines were received both through international donors and through governmental purchasing. As of December 2021, fully vaccinated individuals constituted 3.07 percent of the total population, with an additional 2.8 percent partially vaccinated.

# People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership

## Key results and progress to date

### People

The most recent data on poverty and inequality in Sudan, found in the 2014/2015 Household Income, Expenditure and Poverty Survey, show that between 2009 and 2014/15, the share of the Sudanese population living in poverty (i.e. below the national poverty line) increased from 46.5 percent in 2009 to 61.1 percent in 2014.

It is estimated that in June 2021 around 9.8 million people in Sudan, representing approximately 21 percent of the population, are experiencing high acute food insecurity.

Life expectancy at birth in Sudan has been steadily increasing over past decades (65 years in 2019) and under-five, neonatal, and infant mortality rates have fallen consistently since 1990.

Sudan has seen significant improvements in basic education over the last decade. Between 2008/09 and 2017/18, the total number of schools, both public and private, increased by 2,800 to a total of 19,328 schools, enabling an additional one million children to access education. Low retention and high dropout rates have undermined Sudan's efforts to implement universal free basic education. Almost 70 percent of rural dwellers and 82.5 percent of the urban population have access to a basic water supply. Sudan has made steady progress in increasing access to basic sanitation.

### Prosperity

Sudan has one of the largest power systems in sub-Saharan Africa, with 3,500mw of electricity generation capacity from hydro and thermal

sources. However, power availability and reliability remain a challenge. While on the rise, only 53 percent of the population had access to electricity in 2020, with large discrepancies between urban areas (81.4 percent) and rural areas (39 percent).

Sudan's economy is characterized by weak production, low savings, investment, wages, productivity and skills, and high unemployment and poverty. The projections indicate modest economic growth for 2021. Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita fell by 64 percent between 2015 and 2020. Consequently, Sudan's economic performance has been inadequate to meaningfully reduce unemployment and poverty. Real wage growth has declined due to the devaluation of local currency and high inflation rates.

The informal employment in Sudan accounts for over 85 percent of all employment. Those working in the informal sector are not protected by trade unions and their social security benefits are not protected. The concentration on investment and infrastructure development around urban areas, particularly Khartoum, at the expense of more isolated and peripheral areas, has resulted in unbalanced development, industrialization and economic growth across the country.

Inequalities in Sudan are longstanding and entrenched and based on multiple and often interrelated and overlapping factors.

### Planet

Approximately 15.5 million people (35.2 percent of Sudan's total population) live in urban areas. 8.4 million people (55 percent of women and 15 percent with disabilities), have critically poor quality of life. These populations include 3.1 million IDPs, 942,000 returnees, 1.16 million refugees and 9.3 million other vulnerable residents.



According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2021, Sudan is 11<sup>th</sup>-most climate-vulnerable country in the world. Warmer temperatures are expected in the coming years and will likely lead to an increase in the intensity and duration of droughts and heatwaves. It is also likely that rainfall levels will continue to decrease throughout the country, although precipitation projections are generally more uncertain than temperature projections. The impacts of climate change are also likely to result in an increase in conflicts over access to dwindling natural resources on which many livelihoods depend. This in turn can drive increased migration, including displacement. It should also be noted that the effects of climate change disproportionately impact women and girls due to their social status and traditional roles.

Sudan is endowed with a rich variety of ecosystems of national and global importance due to the great diversity of fauna and flora. Deforestation in Sudan is estimated at 2.4 percent per year—one of the highest rates in the world.

Desertification remains persistent and has a direct impact on the environment and local economies, including the loss of crop and livestock production, reduced carrying capacity for grazing animals, reduced tree cover, increased fire hazards<sup>1</sup>, lower groundwater reserves and the loss of wildlife.

## Peace

Sudan's conflict-affected areas, particularly Darfur and the Kordofan's, experience multiple triggers, including scarce natural resources and political, tribal, and intercommunal tensions, which are intertwined and often lead to the outbreaks of violent conflict with significant humanitarian consequences. Other areas in Sudan, such as the East and the Two areas, also face challenges

related to political and security instability, including long-standing, unresolved conflicts; decades of marginalization; scarcity of natural resources; and political, ethnic and tribal tensions that can be exploited and often erupt into inter-communal violence.

The UN intra-Sudanese dialogue post-coup as it brought together a significant number of stakeholders - directly contributing to targets within SDG 16 and 17. This is added to the 5Ps context described at the beginning of the text. For this, and especially highlighting the facilitation made by UNITAMS (UN) for CSOs, you could consult the report on the I phase of the consultations (attached).

## Partnership

Sudan is a member of multiple regional economic and trade bodies, including the African Economic Community, the Community of Sahel-Saharan States, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development. Additional initiatives further support the socioeconomic policies of the Transitional Government, notably the 'Friends of Sudan' group, which provides political support to transition and peacebuilding efforts. The launch of the Sudan Partnership Forum on 9 September 2021 by the Prime Minister signaled a new chapter in the coordination of economic and development assistance under the ownership and leadership of the Sudanese Government.

## Key challenges and lessons learnt

The challenges are multiple and interconnected and will require integrated and holistic solutions across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus that will address the underlying causes of fragility, vulnerability, poverty and exclusion.

The main challenges and areas of opportunities to progress can be broadly framed around factors pertaining to the political transition and good governance, peace and security, justice and the rule of law, socioeconomic development and resilience.



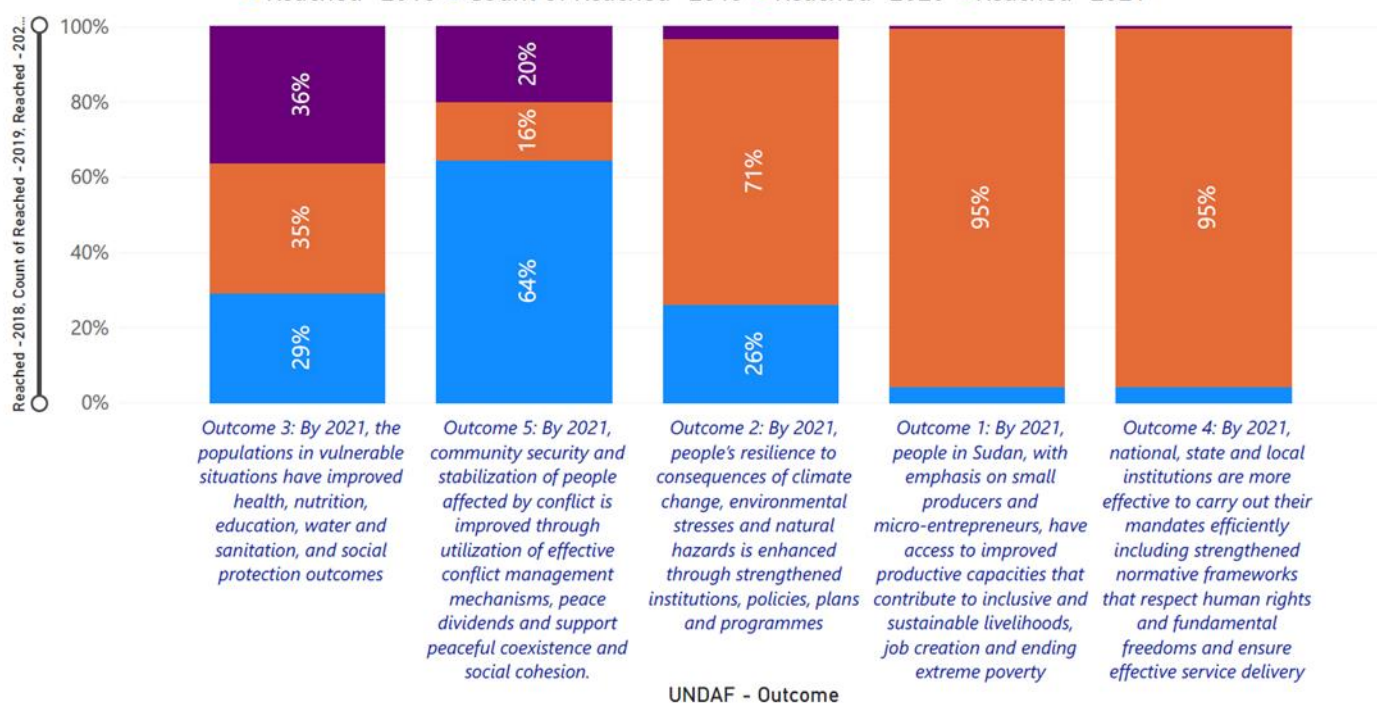
## Chapter 3: UN development system support to national development priorities through the Cooperation Framework



### Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

Reached -2018, Count of Reached -2019, Reached -2020 and Reached -2021 by UNDAF - Outcome

● Reached -2018 ● Count of Reached -2019 ● Reached -2020 ● Reached -2021



The UNDAF 2018-2022 is comprised of five outcomes arranged under the following focus areas:

1. Economic Development and Poverty Reduction
2. Environment, Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Management
3. Social Services
4. Governance, Rule of Law, and Institutional Capacity Development
5. Community Stabilization

26 UN agencies have worked collectively towards the achievement of the five UNDAF outcomes.

### **Focus Area 1: Economic Development and Poverty Reduction**

The UN supported the launching of the Sudan Partnership Forum (SPF) to enhance effective development cooperation and coordinate with UN agencies and the international community.

The UN has developed several analytical reports, including an industrial diagnostic report, an action plan for food security and nutrition, and a review of fiscal decentralization.

Capacity-building events spanned a wide range of topics including organizational management, leadership, project management, donor coordination and quality inspection.

Productive capacities were enhanced through improving farmers' and entrepreneurs' and producers' associations' abilities to address public and private investment gaps and take advantage of opportunities, make use of innovative financial instruments, and develop entrepreneurial skills.

### **Focus Area 2: Environment, Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Management**

Local populations are better equipped to withstand environmental shocks as a result of the provision of improved seeds, technical assistance and awareness raising, and the construction of solar water supply systems. Water quality testing kits, medical waste management and cleaning, and tools to fight diseases and infections were also broadly provided. Technical studies covered the areas of

electricity and energy efficiency, while institutional capacities were strengthened by promoting environmentally friendly technology, integrating water resources management, developing early warning systems for floods and droughts, and conducting national air quality assessments.

### **Focus Area 3: Social Services**

In 2021, despite the complex situation in Sudan, the UN continued to provide vaccinations for children and to respond to the high rate of malnutrition by identifying and treating severely malnourished children. The complementarity between Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition and other primary health care services was improved and access to and utilization of sexual and reproductive health services was increased in order to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity. The UN helped develop HIV prevention programmes for high-risk and vulnerable groups and provided medical supplies and improved medical facilities.

Systematic access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services was improved through high-quality technical assistance and significant advocacy. Water supply systems were rehabilitated and constructed. The urban water supply was developed to expand access to potable water to peri-urban Darfur areas and IDP camps, the water supply infrastructure was upgraded, and the capacity of urban water administrations strengthened.

UN supported education through the development of flexible and open learning systems, revision of competency frameworks, and the training of teachers.

UN helped develop the country's first National Social Protection Strategy and supported the launch of a new innovative cash plus programme. The UN supported increased access to GBV services at the facility and community levels and increased awareness and strengthened capacities of Government and civil society on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

### **Focus Area 4: Governance, Rule of Law, and Institutional Capacity Development**

In 2021, the UN supported the Government of Sudan on the implementation of the transitional agenda in accordance with the Transitional Constitutional Document 2019 and the Juba Peace Agreement 2020. The UN supported constitutional, electoral, and institutional reforms and the establishment of



various commissions under the Constitutional Document, as well as continued assistance to conflict-torn areas such as Darfur.

The UN has supported the Ministry of Justice by drafting a bill for the Anti-corruption Commission. A draft Transitional Justice Commission Act was written as a result of interventions to prevent corruption in different sectors, including health, finance, and other public institutions, in addition to capacity-building and training programmes to strengthen investigative capacity for the centrality of transitional justice.

The UN has supported judicial reform and provided technical assistance and infrastructural investment. Capacity-building trainings and advocacies were implemented for secure and protected land rights. The UN continued to provide high-level advocacy and technical support to support preparatory activities for conducting Sudan's sixth Population and Housing Census. An Action Plan for the Demographic Dividend Roadmap was finalized.

#### **Focus Area 5: Community Stabilization**

A significant reduction in conflicts between farmers and herders over access to natural resources was achieved in 2021, based on the UN contribution to participatory land use planning and mapping and the demarcation of livestock grazing routes.

As a result of awareness-raising of the impact of climate change and extreme climatic shocks on access to natural resources and agriculture and livestock-based livelihoods, farmers and herders are now convinced that their maladaptive practices (such as increasingly shifting cultivation into pasture lands, blocking livestock migratory routes, and intrusion of livestock into crop farms before the harvest) are negative coping mechanisms.

Village Peace Building Committees (PBCs) solved many problems related to access to livestock routes and natural resources, leading to tangible reductions in the frictions between farmers and herders.



## Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes, and outputs



FAO @2021



### Economic Development and Poverty Reduction

**Output 1.1: Government institutions have strengthened capacities for evidence-informed policy formulation to promote priority setting and appropriate practices for sustainable economic development.**



6,289 farmers improved their capacities.



More than 2,271 feddans, equal to 954 hectares, cultivated under technical packages that provided advanced agricultural inputs and services.

In 2021, the UN supported the Federal Food Security Technical Secretariat in preparing the Federal Food Security and Nutrition Action Plan and aligning it with the Federal Food Security and Nutrition Policy, which is currently under review for endorsement by the Higher

Council for Food Security and Nutrition. Food security strategies were reviewed and endorsed in each state, and two comprehensive studies on food security and nutrition situation analysis were published.

The UN supported the preparation and dissemination of food security information products to diverse food security partners. As a result, more than 200 products were delivered, capturing the adverse impacts of different hazards and shocks, such as floods, droughts, dry spells, conflict, economic downturns, COVID-19, and others ([www.fsis.sd](http://www.fsis.sd)).

On 9 September 2021, the Prime Minister launched the Aid Coordination Architecture (ACIA) for the Sudan Partnership Forum (SPF) to enhance effective

development cooperation and coordinate with UN agencies and the international community on policy, strategic decisions, thematic areas and technical dialogue, and to agree on a roadmap for its implementation by the Government and donors.

The Aid Coordination Unit (ACU) in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MoFEP) was supported by the UN through the deployment of a team of international and national experts to strengthen the capacity of the unit. This was followed by capacity-building for the line ministries in the use of the system, primarily targeting the development partners.

Seconded specialists in assistance effectiveness, data management and information management were brought in to help MoFEP develop its capacity and give mentorship and coaching to ACU personnel. The main donors were the Government of Sweden and the United Nations.

The UN supported the government in developing two policy-oriented papers on assessing the current economic policies and programme reforms and identifying the role of fiscal federalism in the realization of sustainable peace and economic recovery in Sudan.

The UN supported the Government in evidence-based industrial policies through the Federal Ministry of Industry. As a result, an industrial diagnostic report was produced by the UN after consultations with the Government, the private sector, academia, and expert groups. Industry makes up only four percent of the country's GDP, and Sudan's industrial sector is still at an infant stage. The report simultaneously highlights the favorable endowments of Sudan for growing manufacturing and the positive contributions that a growing industrial sector could make to the overall development of the country. The analytical results in this report reveal a significant decrease in Sudan's policy-making capabilities over time. There is a need to improve the understanding of economic development and industrial policy fundamentals and how to turn them into effective policies in Sudan. The recommendations relate to building capacities required to design and implement effective policies. The long-term success of any industrial policy depends on the progress in building these capacities within the Government and private sector. This diagnostic report provides a detailed assessment of the Government's policy capacities.

The study embraced the participation of diverse stakeholders and partners. At least 20 officials from the Government and representatives of private sector, media

and industry took part in the diagnostic consultations and meetings. Also, 15 participants were oriented on the scope and methods of conducting industrial diagnostics. Participants included stakeholders, such as the Ministry of Industry and Chambers of Industry.

A training course on ISO17020 was held for 11 staff members from quality inspection agencies, such as the Ministry of Health, Sudanese Standards Metrology Organization (SSMO), Quality Control and Export Development Administration, and Plant Protection Directorate.

For a total of 30 extension officers from the two targeted states (Gedarif and North Kordofan), the UN conducted a training of trainers on GAP and Farmer Field School (FFS) for sesame crops, as well as a training of trainers on GAP and Integrated Pest Management (IPM). In addition, 14 top officials from the Vocational Training and Entrepreneurship Centre (VTEC), the Supreme Council for Human Development and Labour (SCHDL), the Supreme Council for Vocational Training and Apprenticeship (SCVTA), and the Ministry of Industry received training in organizational management, leadership and project management.

At the macro level, the reforming of the framework that guides the development of the National Budget was a great achievement. The budget circular, which is regarded as the legislative underpinning of the financial system and is gender blind, was modified for the first time in Sudan's history. The gender advisor, who was seconded by UN Women and recruited to the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, was able to make significant adjustments to the budget circular through orientation sessions and consultations. Included in the budget circular were a section clearly indicating the importance of women in all budget development processes and guidance for ministries and sectors to implement gender-responsive budgeting. The inclusion of this item holds the government accountable and dedicated to gender-responsive budgeting and mainstreaming gender into the strategies and policies of various ministries and sectors at the federal and state levels.

The UN aided the administration by stationing eight gender advisors in the following government agencies: Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MOFEP), Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Social Development (MOSD), Ministry of Labour (MOLAR), Ministry of Justices (MOJ), Ministry of Federal Governance (MOFG), Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS). However, after 25 October 2021, this practice was discontinued.

**Output 1.2: Targeted populations benefit from enriching productive capacities.**

**1,438 new jobs created.**



**Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programmes assisted 535 migrants who were stuck in Sudan from Asia and Africa.**

The UN helped 6,289 farmers and 66 Agri-entrepreneurs improve their capacities to address public and private investment gaps and take advantage of opportunities, make use of innovative financial instruments, and develop entrepreneurial skills. In addition to 337 MSMEs increased inclusion in their value chains (a total of 2,271 feddans or 954 hectares) through technical packages that provided advanced agricultural inputs and services and led to the creation of 1,438 new jobs.

The UN assisted vulnerable groups (such as women and youth) by providing training in food processing and preservation, soap making, and sewing, with a focus on increasing purchasing power to increase household income; vocational training with group-based start-up businesses in *tuk tuk* maintenance services, welding and traditional brick making; and the formation of a women's cooperative.

In 2021, Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programmes assisted 535 migrants stuck in Sudan from Asia and Africa to return to their countries of origin in a dignified and safe manner. 177 migrants were reintegrated into their countries of origin, while 93 Sudanese people who were trapped abroad, particularly in Lebanon, Malta, and the Netherlands during the COVID-19 pandemic, were helped to safely return to Sudan in a dignified manner. An additional 118 Sudanese were reintegrated into their communities. Reintegration has taken many forms, including economic reintegration through livelihood programmes, social reintegration through continuous education and vocational training, and psychosocial reintegration through various forms of medical assistance, including mental treatment. The reintegration support helped the returnees integrate into their communities and address the challenges they face.

The EU-UN Joint Initiative (JI) has provided economic reintegration assistance to returnees, assisting them in founding enterprises and enabling an atmosphere that allows people to voluntarily return to Sudan and remain in their homeland. In addition, the JI assisted returnees with start-up and improve-your-business training through the AVRR to ensure that their firms were viable and sustainable. 608 returnees received income generating

activities (small business) in 2021, and 700 received the Start and Improve Your Business training. In South Darfur, the UN provided improved seeds and livestock inputs to 10 returnees working in agriculture and livestock.

The UN has been working in the states of East Darfur and West Kordofan to promote the formation of agro-cooperatives that work in the groundnut and sesame value chains. The UN organized a training of trainers for our implementation partner that is working to establish and register small plot farmers into agro-cooperatives, with the help of a master trainer. The formation of cooperatives is projected to aggregate agricultural production, resulting in better pricing and improved negotiating power. Cooperative formation was aided by capacity-building trainings for agricultural outreach officers working with the state's Ministry of Agriculture. Furthermore, small plot farmers included in this programming stream received training on excellent agricultural practices, soil erosion and soil nutrient depletion, as well as dedicated trainings on forming and maintaining cooperatives.

Furthermore, the United Nations mapped civil society organizations that provide vocational skills training for women and youth in Blue Nile State in order to enhance access to skills, productive assets (including secure land tenure), and improved employment opportunities. In North and South Darfur States, the UN also aided in the capacity-building of men and women in environmentally sensitive construction practices and in participatory land management in the five Darfur states.

**Output 1.3: Rural institutions and businesses are strengthened to promote socio-economic development.**



**The UN capacitated 51 institutions and 129 Government bodies for private investment gaps and opportunities, innovative financial instruments.**

The UN has built the capacity of 50 producer associations for gum arabic, sesame, and date palm products. The associations were equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools for better production, while ensuring sustainable use of natural resources and linkages with actors along the value chains.



84 stakeholders trained on entrepreneurship development and agro-processing investment opportunities.

The UN has capacitated 51 institutions and 129 government bodies to identify private investment gaps, opportunities and innovative financial instruments, and 84 stakeholders were trained on entrepreneurship development and agro-processing investment opportunities.

The UN has established Local Economic Development Committees (LEDCs) in four locations in East Darfur and West Kordofan (Assalaya in East Darfur and Assalaya, Keilak and Al-Meiram in West Kordofan). Representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture, Infrastructure, and Labour, as well as state cooperatives departments, personnel from the Commissioner of Refugees (COR), and officials from local administrations participate in these LEDCs. Bi-annual meetings were scheduled, and resources acquired to provide the necessary infrastructure to carry out the mandate for monitoring, validation and coordinating in the states.

The LEDCs will be given a pool of grants in 2022 to help them choose community projects to help foster local economic development. Market system analyses were strengthened, and technical support was more focused thanks to input from LEDC members. As a result, local economic and employment prospects in targeted areas are likely to be enlarged, more inclusive and sustainable over the long-term.

## Main challenges to implementation

- The political landscape in Sudan necessitated reprogramming some of the initially planned interventions.
- Due to the security situation, movements have been restricted and the pace of delivery has slowed down. The UN projects developed innovative measures to deliver to local communities, including switching some activities to online models as well as utilizing local partners to facilitate relevant support.
- There is a lack of capacity in the MoFEP for the Aid Coordination Unit to effectively execute its mandate.
- The areas of production, productivity and employment generation are lacking skillful personnel due to the instability of development interventions in terms of policy and delivery.
- The long-term impact of renewable energy has yet to materialize. Solar-operated machines will

provide savings to residences and mitigation of climate risks.

- There was continued economic deterioration due to price increases, and the large gap between the official bank rate and the black market was a major problem.
- Despite stabilization efforts by the Central Bank in February 2021, an economic meltdown continued and led to widespread demonstrations nationwide.
- The Darfur armed tribal conflict disrupted the reintegration of migrants and delayed service delivery, with some migrants opting to stay in Khartoum.
- Political instability resulted in high staff turnover of government stakeholders, which affected the capacity building efforts made by JI.
- Events of 26 October resulted in movement restrictions, office closures and network disconnections. Flight arrivals and departures were temporarily suspended, including on chartered flights.
- Sudan's security situation has deteriorated since the 25 October 2021, dissolving the transitional government and making it more difficult to complete the income generating (small business) project and Movement to project sites was halted, and all implementing partners (IPs) were told to stop intervening for at least two months following the coup.
- Economic instability, characterized by a scarcity of fuel and instability in market prices, affected the design and delivery of livelihood interventions. Because of rising market costs, particularly for imported commodities, the total number of beneficiaries has decreased, and the quantity of each intervention was limited.
- Access to the remote area to diagnostic evaluations provided the demand-driven, market-oriented data required to establish evidence-based programming.
- The most options for activity design and testing planning assumptions and theory of change logic are created by robust, randomized, and geo-referenced baseline evaluation but due to the political situation in the country all the mentioned activities have been stopped.
- Following the political situation in the country, the Sweden's support for the administration has been put on hold.
- The political situation renders the activities of gender equality. In addition, just three women

were appointed as ministers (the Minister of Labour, the Minister of Federal Governance, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs), out of a total of 24. This is a step backwards from the previous administration. The political situation has hampered the implementation of the women, peace and security (WPS) agenda and the approval of the gender and economy plan. Finally, the situation made it difficult for the UNCT office to continue its work and meet crucial milestones.

Mr. Shoeab Salih Mohamed Abakar said that "Before, I used to borrow from informal merchants. The loan amounted to the price of one sack of sesame. At the time of the harvest, the price of sesame doubled, so the loan had to be reimbursed. Thanks to the opportunity provided by the UNIDO project, I obtained a loan from a financial institution for the first time in my life. The rules were much more transparent, and I proudly reimbursed the entire loan; I proved my honesty through my work. Now I'm looking for new loans in order to expand my life and work plans."

## Successful Story

### Financial inclusion for small scale producers



Mr. Shoeab Salih Mohamed Abakar, Magreef Village (Kassala State, Sudan) El-Tadamoun Producers Association UNIDO 2021

### Adaptation of international best practices and technologies

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) supported and facilitated access and adaptation of international best practices and technologies to enhance value chain competitiveness and sustainability. The endeavour resulted in the establishment and installation of a 100m<sup>2</sup> cold storage facility in Kassala for storing fresh horticultural crops.

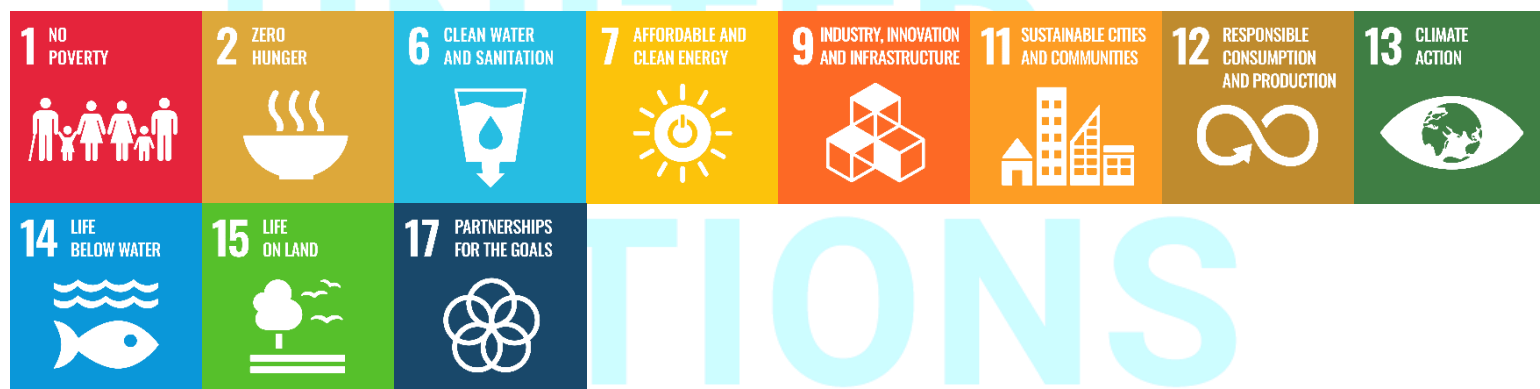


In 2021, UNIDO fostered the spread of renewable energy products for agricultural application in Kassala by connecting the private sector and the farmers through innovative financial schemes.





Wad El Ku, UNEP@ 2021



## Environment, Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Management

Output 2.1: Targeted populations are better equipped to withstand climatic shocks, natural disasters and environmental degradation.



31,500 latrines with wood-free slabs (Concrete or plastic) constructed

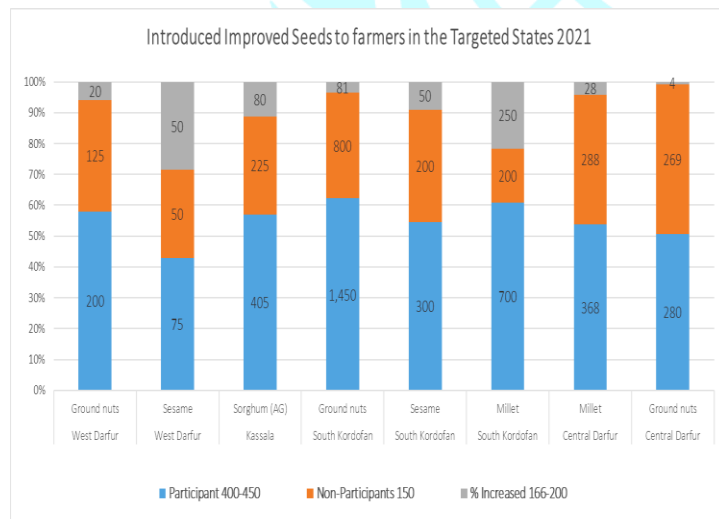


More than 60,000 native seedlings (out of 150,000 planned) transplanted.



Nurseries established to receive 3,000, forest tree seedlings.

Sudan's Ministry of Agriculture, in partnership with the United Nations, provided improved seeds to 129,946 direct beneficiaries, 49 percent of whom are female farmers. These seeds included 55 tons of sorghum and wheat, 25 tons of millet, 3 tons of maize, 140 tons of groundnuts, 10 tons of sesame, 8 tons of cow peas, and 4 tons of vegetables. In addition, farmers in the Northern State received 41 tons of wheat for the winter season. During the rainy season, 14,023 farmers profited from early-maturing and drought-resistant sorghum seed varieties. The agricultural climate resulted in an increase in crop productivity that ranged from 20 percent to over 100 percent depending on the type of crop and region.



The UN provides technical help to 526 farmers in the South Kordofan, Kassala, and West Darfur States as part of the seed's multiplication farms initiative. As a result, 25 female community leaders in Kassala state were given farms (of two feddans) to grow enhanced sorghum seeds. The women participated in a three-month training program, along with 1,163 farmers who were enrolled in farmers' school.

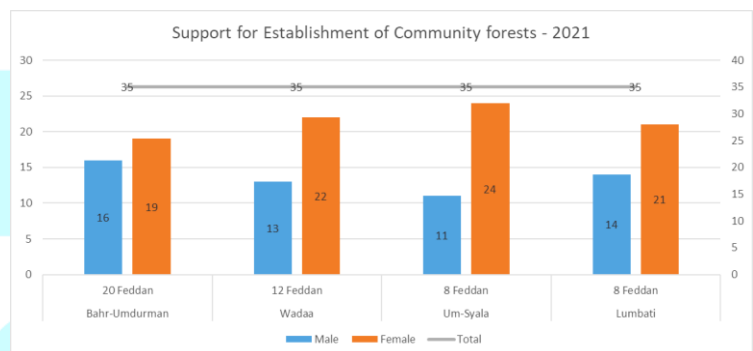
Over 60 women worked on a women's cooperative farm, and over 500,000 people took part in awareness campaigns that resulted in the creation of 447 home gardens for integrated sustainable agricultural farms.

A 63-meter-tall wind turbine has been constructed in Northern State as part of a commercial-scale wind energy project that will provide power to 14,000 people and be connected to the national grid for the first time in the country.

The UN raised awareness of the world heritage sites' preservation against the Nile floods and human dangers during the Water Day Celebration. The Nuri Pyramids, which are a World Heritage property, Gebel Barkal and a site in the Napatan Region, are under emergency measures to prevent them from collapsing due to increased groundwater floods.

The building and refurbishment of 87 solar water supply systems by the United Nations provided carbon dioxide-free solar water sources for 310,000 people. Additionally, 31,500 latrines with wood-free slabs (concrete or plastic) were constructed, which helped 239,000 people reduce tree/vegetation cover degradation.

The UN has bolstered the Government's ability to deal with the effects of climate change, environmental stress and natural disasters by providing water quality testing kits to 13 states and training for 144 public health officers on water quality monitoring for early detection and intervention of food and water-borne diseases using standard cholera case studies during the rainy season. In addition, the UN assisted with medical waste management and cleaning (focusing on 182 janitors at health-care facilities), as well as providing waste management tools and equipment and raising awareness about the importance of medical waste segregation and management to reduce pollution and soil degradation.



The United Nations provided 425,000 individuals with 1300 environmentally friendly for vector surveillance and management in order to combat *Aedes* mosquito-borne infections.

Community meetings and workshops for hazard mapping, vulnerability and capacity discussion, chain of impacts, and development of adaptation plans in Gedarf, and Kassala States contributed to building community resilience to the expected impacts of climate change, environmental degradation and natural hazards.

The United Nations has secured funds for the creation of a long-term water network in Um Rakuba, which will last for the next 20 years and will include an environmental study. In addition, the UN erected nine groundwater

monitoring facilities in three states and built and restored 13 solar-powered water facilities that are environmentally beneficial.

The UN is assisting roughly 1,000 small plot farmers operating in the groundnut and sesame value chains in East Darfur and West Kordofan through the extension of good agricultural practices. Traditional farming techniques are depleting soil nutrients, increasing soil erosion, and there aren't enough locally appropriate field practices to build resiliency against climatic shocks and extreme weather occurrences, according to the technical help. The UN has been instrumental in helping agricultural farmers enhance productivity, income, and household resiliency by introducing restricted till cultivation, fertilizer micro-dosing application techniques and crop rotation strategies.

Through a combination of training, enhanced governance structures and infrastructure, the UN's WEK initiative continues to equip the local population to withstand climate shocks. Practical Action, many Government ministries, the Agricultural Research Centre, and the universities of El Fasher and Khartoum are also involved in the interventions.

Members of 10,528 households (63,168 persons) have been trained since the Wadi El Ku Catchment project (WEK) implementation phase began in 2019. A random sample of 200 trainees indicated that 63 percent had adopted the techniques they were taught by the end of 2021. Processing, marketing, better agriculture and livestock husbandry, forestry, agroforestry, water harvesting, processing of agricultural and livestock products, and management of community-based organizations are among the themes covered in the trainings.



Promoting regeneration of natural forest @UNEP

Planting of shelter belts continued in 2021 as 501 people (261 women, 208 men and youth) were trained and planted 14,500 seedlings in the Lumbati, Fardal, Sarafya and Kafut (B) Village Development Committees (VDCs).

Four communities received assistance for developing and implementing management strategies for natural tree regeneration. Two Government of Sudan Forest National Corporation (FNC) trainers assisted in the training of critical pruning and water collection procedures using small crescent-shaped terraces around the trees. The villages were given shovels, secateurs, hoes, handsaws and pruning scissors.

The communities of Abo-Delaik and Bani Omran received assistance in building community woodlands. The function of trees in the ecosystem, the best site and layout for community forests, and tree planting and management practices were all discussed. In the communities, temporary nurseries were set up to receive 3,000 forest tree seedlings from the FNC central nursery in El-Fasher.

Table below reflects the name and number of participants in the training workshop:

Time	Village	Women trained	Men trained
August 2021	Abo-Delaik	58	0
September 2021	Bani Omran	19	31
		77	31

The United Nations encouraged the development of men's and women's skills in ecologically friendly construction practices. Stabilized soil blocks (SSB) were installed in Tawilla, North Darfur, and Eid EL Fursan, South Darfur, and a study on gender, conflict and environmental analysis was conducted. The findings of the study reveal that environmental deterioration had different effects on men and women. UN Women will step in to help women whose livelihoods have been harmed by climate change.

The National Council of Civil Defense (NCCD) and the UN collaborated to create a multi-hazard country risk profile for Sudan to help the government's efforts to reduce disaster risk, as well as a scoping paper on risk assessment for multidimensional multi-hazards.

**Output 2.2: Institutions have increased capacity to manage and make environment and climate data available.**

The UN supported the preparation of three technical study reports: Sectors' Survey Analysis, Electricity Demand, Energy Efficiency Regulations, and Appliances End-of-Life Management; the Establishment of the Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPs), Labelling

System, and Development of Test Procedures and Full Proposal of Testing Laboratory. The National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) (2021–2024) was also developed. In addition, 120 engineers were trained for solar system installation and maintenance.

The UN has supported the government of Sudan on a number of initiatives and built the capacity of personnel. The aim of the Safeguarding the Environment initiative is to focus on investment projects and transfer sustainable and environmentally-friendly technology to industrial companies in the rigid polyurethane and foaming agents from HCFC-141b to cyclopentane and CO<sub>2</sub>/water that are operational on the ground to support the environmental sustainability global agenda and engage environmental management (including marine resources exploitation) in addition to building the capacities of the refrigeration and air-conditioning industries by providing best available technologies combined with best environmental practices.

Furthermore, the UN strengthened the national capacity to fulfil obligations under the Minamata Convention on Mercury and promoted effective implementation of its provisions while facilitating the ratification process.

The UN co-organized the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Sudan Conference, focusing on citizens' role in strengthening water resources database collection. The UN also supported the integrated water resources management and social impact assessment studies to generate the guidelines and evidence used for appropriate water source site selection and rationalized utilization of water resources among competing water users. The UN conducted training on regular groundwater monitoring and management systems to monitor the surface water sites on a monthly basis with the required groundwater level for operation and maintenance.

The UN supported Sudan in implementing a Reimagine Water Security for All (RWS4A) Programme with a focus on the development of a National Water and Sanitation Hygiene WASH Climate Rational. The UN supported FMOH in strengthening vector surveillance, four entomological labs for consistent arboviral disease outbreaks, monitoring, and identification of mosquito populations for direct prediction, mitigation, and prevention of vector-borne disease outbreaks. Of those, a total of 448 staff from federal and state ministries of health were trained on different vector surveillance and control topics, whereby the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) is equipped with the tools and equipment to accelerate vector control measures in high-risk areas.

Furthermore, the UN has provided support and promoted best practices on medical waste management and cleaning health care by the provision of waste management tools and equipment to decrease medical waste management segregation, thus saving the environment from pollution and degradation of the soil.

In Khartoum, the UN held a national technical review session for government technical employees as well as UN, INGOs, NGOs, and academia to discuss climate, environment, and natural hazards data from five states (Gedarif, Kassala, Blue Nile, South Darfur, and North Darfur). In addition, in Gedarif and Kassala, two state-level workshops were held for government technical personnel as well as UN, INGOs, NGOs, SCOs, and academia to share climate, environment, and natural hazards data from hazards, capacities, vulnerabilities, and people movement in those states.

The UN provided four incinerators to four hospitals in Khartoum State to aid in medical waste management and disposal and training for medical and administrative staff in those hospitals on the importance of medical waste segregation and management in reducing pollution and degradation of the environment.

Five rain gauges were placed in collaboration with the Ground Water and Wadi Department (GWWD). Local caretakers were given training and a mechanism was established for reporting data to GWWD. In order to avoid the vandalism that has plagued earlier installations,



protective cages were built. In August 2021, data II. collecting, and reporting began.



Rain gauge station	North	East
Shawa	13.46361	25.50792
Magdob	13.65513	25.122906
Sarafaya	13.68504	25.04285
Gharni	13.74704	25.23236
Wad Kota	13.04813	25.75005

With the help of GWWD, three locations for stream flow gauges were chosen for installation in 2022. At Korga, downstream of the Golo reservoir, a temporary gauge was built.

UNITAMS, UNEP, ILO, UNIDO, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Brazilian embassy all contributed to the information and data sharing among key agencies (including UNITAMS, UNEP, ILO, UNIDO, JICA, and the UN Solid Waste Management Task Force).

The United Nations has designed the Global Risk Assessment Framework (GRAF) as a long-term service offer to UN member states and UN Country Teams that aims to:

- I. improve access to, and better apply risk data and information, including hazard, vulnerability and exposure analytics relating to complex climate futures.

deploy new technological innovations in risk data across thematic areas to strengthen anticipatory finance and enable specialized analytics to better understand the systemic risks facing countries and regions and to support decision-making on risk prevention and anticipatory finance.

- III. strengthen the capacity of national and sub-national partners to integrate risk information and complex climate futures into their investment and development plans, by improving the uptake of risk science in decision-making and diffusion of practical tools to inform risk reduction options.

The UN assists the nation in organizing and carrying out workshops for probabilistic risk assessment, collecting data for data platforms, and supporting the Common Country Analysis (CCA) processes in Sudan. this will help to engage in ongoing risk knowledge, training, and processes as well as provide support for systemic risk analysis as an input to address cases where risks are framed or treated from the vantage point of examining interconnected and systemic risks. This will help to contextualize of the Global Risk Assessment Framework (GRAF) support to local needs.

**Output 2.3: Government institutions have increased capacities to formulate environmental policies, plans and strategies.**

The UN's collaborated with the National Council for Civil Defense to develop an early warning system for floods and droughts in Sudan. The First National Disaster Risk Reduction Forum with a focus on floods in Sudan was organized by the National Council for Civil Defense. The UN also collaborated with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research on the preparation of a report on Sudan's groundwater resources. Furthermore, the Third National Communication and Biennial Updated Report was successfully completed. The report is planned to be submitted to the UNFCCC in early 2022 through a government focal point.

The UN supported the Federal Ministry of Health with the testing kits for insecticide resistance monitoring across the country. The performed tests will guide the country in updating the national insecticide resistance monitoring strategy for 2022–2024. The UN also supported the implementation of national air quality assessments to gauge the country's capacity and serve as a foundation for the development of a national action plan.

The Catchment Management Forum (CMF), which has served as a forum for all-natural resource management (NRM) stakeholders in Wadi El Ku to communicate, plan,

and resolve National Resource Management (NRM) issues since 2013, has been renamed as part of a restructure that will allow it to span the entire Wadi El Ku area. It is now the Catchment Management Agency (CMA). The UN continues to help the CMA and the area-based Natural Resource Committees (NRC) that are represented in the Community Catchment Management Agency CCMA in their capacity-building efforts.

Two IWRM climate change and early warning systems training courses on Meteorology Station for 56 NRC personnel on environmental analysis, peacebuilding, and land use. A total of 74 people benefited from the training for CMA members.

In response to the floods of September 2021, the UN advised the authorities in Khartoum and elsewhere in Sudan on resettlement and disaster risk mitigation, including identifying high-risk regions and directing people away from them.

Climate change has caused irregular rainfall and rising temperatures in North Darfur, resulting in food shortages and conflict as farmers and pastoralists struggle for limited natural resources. This put a lot of strain on local ecosystems, as people cut trees for fuel, reducing forest and plant cover.

In 2021, the Forestry and agro-forestry operations have been established, supported, and spread in North Darfur as part of the United Nations' "Wadi El Ku Catchment Management Project" to tackle environmental problems and benefit communities. This practice is regarded as one of the most creative, nature-based solutions to rural environmental challenges.

Furthermore, the UN, Practical Action (implementing partner), and Community Based Networks in collaboration with the Forest National Corporation (FNC) in El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur, transplanted more than 60,000 native seedlings (out of 150,000 planned) in different villages as community forests and shelter belts. Allah Maragh hamlet, some 15 kilometers from El Fasher, is one among the localities where 2,000 seedlings were transplanted as part of a community forest project. Before the tree transplantation, villagers received thorough training in planting site preparation, seedling spacing by species, and water gathering and irrigation systems for the seedlings.

## Success story

Shadia Abdelkreem Adam, 38, is a housewife who looks after her husband's five children. She recalls, "My family used to acquire additional food, fodders, local remedies,

wood, and fuelwood from the forest that surrounded our village when I was 10 years old. However, as a result of deforestation and fighting, there were no trees and no forests."

From beginning to end, Shadia noted, the creation of a community forest committees in her village was a women-led project. "The project's staff held a participatory planning session with our communities in 2015 to identify local priorities, one of which was the creation of a community forest. A Forest Committee was formed the same year to oversee and supervise any future initiatives," she says. "Although there are equal numbers of women and men on the committee, women have played a significant part in the success of all initiatives to date. We underwent considerable training and successfully transplanted various tree types to get our new community forest off the ground before the end of 2015. More seedlings were transplanted in 2021 year.

Communities choose the seedling species together, with the help of the Forest National Corporation (FNC). *Grewia tenax*, hashab (*Acacia Senegal*), katir (*Acacia mellifera*), nabag (*Ziziphus spinosus*), and neem were among them (*Azadirachta indica*). These trees were planted in the nine feddan neighborhood.

"It's been more than five years since we transplanted the seedlings, and you can now see the trees are growing with them, and hope is developing inside us," Shadia says. "Our forest brings our communities together, provides shade for everyone, including community leaders, women's groups, children, and even animals, and protects our village from the wind. All meetings are now held in the shade of these trees, and important decisions are also made there. Furthermore, this woodland provided an opportunity for women to organize and join a small saving organization, which I am currently taking advantage of. More importantly, we anticipate a high production of gum Arabic from the tree in 2021. If this occurs, members of the Forest Committee, including me, will sell the items to raise funds to help our town and communities."

Improved biodiversity, reduced soil erosion, sand dune fixation, improved water availability, climate change adaptation, climate change mitigation, wind speed reduction, soil fertility enhancement, evapotranspiration reduction, and increased rainfall rate are all environmental benefits of community forests. "My message to my community, the people of Sudan, and everyone in the world," Shadia adds, "is please plant more trees, safeguard the ones that already exist, and

take care of them the same way you take care of your children and family."

Shadia and her communities have demonstrated that community-based forest management can have both environmental and social benefits. As a result, other issues such as climate change and poverty will be addressed.

The European Union (EU) has funded the Wadi El Ku Catchment Management Project, which is being conducted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the Government of Sudan and the international non-governmental organization (NGO) Practical Action.

### Main challenges to implementation

- The prevailing political instability in the country has had a negative impact on the programmer's implementation. This was reflected in the constant turnover of decision-makers directly involved in project implementation at both the national and state levels, as well as the frequent change and turnover of FMOH management and expertise.
- COVID-19 restrictions affected physical meetings, communications, and travel. However, UN projects made significant innovations to be able to deliver to the local communities by switching some activities to an online model. There is a need to build the necessary capacities for working virtually.
- Unavailability of systematic groundwater/surface water resource monitoring systems.
- Disruption of surveillance and control measures due to fund shortages led to the invasion of new vectors.
- The influence of the severity of social friction between refugee and host community members was underestimated by the ILO technical support in the states of East Darfur and West Kordofan. In response, the International Labour Organization (ILO) conducted a Rapid Social Cohesion Assessment to further contextualize friction areas and generate practical field-level recommendations that could be mainstreamed into programming interventions. A social cohesion assessment should be included in community entry; effective beneficiary selection necessitates clear and transparent criteria; and a greater focus on the negative effects of traditional farming practices and the development of strategies to move farmers away from these harmful methods is required.



In order to identify present implementation gaps in disaster risk reduction and entry points to be integrated within and across all development sectors, the UN created a policy landscape mapping report. To guarantee compatibility with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Climate Change Agenda, Sudan's National Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Platform and National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy have been reviewed considering the current policy environment.



Children Carry Jerrycans and other containers on their way to collect Water Gedarif State (UNICEF@2021)



## Social Service

Output 3.1. Targeted populations have improved access to and use of quality preventive and curative health and nutrition services.

 1,298,916 infants (81 percent) received three doses of the pentavalent vaccine. 1,289,285

infants (80 percent) received at least one dose of the measles vaccine

The Un provided food and nutrition assistance to 8.9 million IDPs, refugees and vulnerable residents across Sudan.

The UN assisted vulnerable migrants, IDPs, returnees and other affected groups in North Darfur (Tawilla locality),

West Darfur (Geneina), West Kordofan (Ghubeash locality), South Darfur (Greida locality), Kasaala (Reifi Khashm Elgirba locality), East Darfur (Yassin locality) and Gadarif (Um Rakuba IDP camp and Al Fao) by providing primary health care and supporting existing primary health care centres (PHCs) and rural hospitals through structural renovation and support for clinics' operational expenditures in order to provide an essential bundle of primary health care services. The UN supported the continuity and sustainability of community-based outreach programmes and community projects, as well as capacity-building training for medical and health service providers, including community health workers (CHWs) and community members (women).

In 2021, despite the complex situation in Sudan, 1,298,916 infants (81 percent) received three doses of the pentavalent vaccine and 1,289,285 infants (80 percent) received at least one dose of the measles vaccine. The polio outbreak that was reported in over 10 states was successfully contained through two successful polio vaccination campaigns that benefited over 8.2 million children under five years-old and led to the country's being declared polio-free. In addition, the UN supported the establishment of cold chain maintenance and decommissioning systems to protect the continuity of key medical supplies, including COVID-19 vaccines.

The UN provided direct assistance services, including medical treatment and psychosocial support (PSS) to migrants in vulnerable situations through the Migrant Resource and Response Centre (MRRC) in the Khartoum, Gedaref and Kassala States. These centres assist vulnerable migrants, such as women, girls and boys, as well as potential victims of trafficking (VOT), victims of smuggling (VOS), and stranded or administratively detained irregular migrants, in gaining better access to essential health services for their physical and psychological well-being.

The United Nations responded to the high rate of malnutrition by identifying and treating 289,000 severely malnourished children (out of 5.8 million examined), with a cure rate of 92 percent and zero ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) stockouts. This involved raising the number of Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) clinics from 1,614 to 1,753 and collaborating with other UN agencies to study and implement national guidelines, policies and instruments to improve community management of acute malnutrition.

The establishment of the collaborative scale-up matrix and the mapping of Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) OTP capability have

improved the complementarity between CMAM and other primary health care services. Although results are still not available on the number of people in Sudan reached by messaging on the key family practices, over 16 million were reached by COVID-19 messaging on prevention and access to services.

Furthermore, the UN's support to strengthening the national health system included increasing access to and utilization of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity. The support resulted in some midwifery reforms, including the establishment of midwifery associations at the federal and state levels and the in-service training of 148 midwives. In its effort to increase the coverage of Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC), the UN supported the update of EmONC protocols and formulated 15 state and one national EmONC support team. The teams (eight participants per team) received training on the quality improvement package for EmONC.

The trained service providers conducted community-based health and nutrition promotion campaigns focused on regular prenatal and postnatal check-ups, good infant and young child feeding (IYCF), child vaccinations and household-based vector control, as part of on-the-job training delivering an essential package of primary health services. A COVID-19 awareness presentation was also included to help the community better understand COVID-19 and its prevention strategies. Nutrition screening was also carried out, and follow-up services for instances of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were improved in close collaboration with nutritional partners. Furthermore, as part of UN Health, Border and Mobility Management, two points of entry (PoE) in West Darfur State and Kassala State were supported with an emphasis on increasing capacity for health screening, including disease surveillance and communication and community engagement. The UN strengthened the ability of the States Ministry of Health and locally oriented partners such as national NGOs to maintain and operate the targeted PHCs and rural hospitals beyond the project's lifecycle by providing access to better health services for the most disadvantaged migrant groups and their hosting communities, as well as enable communities to take charge of community-based health and nutrition programmes. In 2021, more than 717,953 people received assistance.

The UN procured and distributed medical equipment and supplies to 59 basic EmONC and 49 comprehensive EmONC facilities that covered approximately 8,900

pregnant women. The procurement of personal protective equipment and supplies for 65 EmONC facilities enabled 495 obstetric cases to be referred to tertiary health facilities. Maternal death surveillance and response (MDSR) capacities were strengthened—both at the national and state levels—with the notification and investigation of 1206 and 930 maternal deaths, respectively. 95 fistula cases received surgical treatment and 295 women were screened for cervical cancer.

The UN provided 4,296 family planning services, 8,131 SRH services and 64,464 medical consultations, through which 4,390 pregnant women benefited. 183 visibly pregnant women received clean delivery kits, and 864 deliveries were supported in the camps' clinics. 416 health care providers received basic training on Clinical Management of Rape (CMR) along with the orientation and sensitization sessions that were conducted for 416 health cadres. In collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, provision of clean and safe delivery kits through the midwives was deployed to health facilities in Ethiopian refugee camps. In addition, 200 community midwives received midwifery equipment and supplies to ensure safe deliveries at the community level.

Furthermore, the UN aided the Ministry of Health and Civil Society Organizations in developing HIV prevention programmes for high-risk and vulnerable groups. Behaviour change communication HIV prevention packets were sent to 10,938 MSMs (men who have sex with men) and 12,601 FSWs (female sex workers) who were then tested for HIV. A total of 400 people living with HIV (PLHIV) and 684 people living with HIV and Perinatally Acquired HIV (PAHIV) were contacted out of the planned 1,100. 500 people were given STI treatment. 342 PAHIV were tested for HIV, and 24 were determined to be HIV positive and placed on antiretroviral therapy.

The first National Teenagers' Health Strategy was designed and finalized as a result of a collaborative process that included essential stakeholders, including adolescents' groups, to ensure integration and reflection of the primary adolescents' health challenges. This was primarily to update the first draft, which was created over two years ago and adopted the Global Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents (AA-HA!) principles as the first country worldwide. Following the creation of this national adolescent health plan, a national adolescents' health care package was created to address the identified health problem and the top disability-adjusted life years (DALYs).

GBV continues to be one of the most important social determinants of health, negatively impacting the health

and livelihoods of women and girls. The Call for Action to integrate GBV in national health policy and strengthen the health system's response to GBV, including female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage is relevant in this regard. Research was undertaken in 40 health facilities in Khartoum state to assess the capacity of the Health Facility preparedness to respond to GBV in response to this call to action.

The UN, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health, the State Ministries of Health and other relevant partners, has undertaken several activities at the national and sub-national levels to advocate for the implementation and enforcement of the national criminalization law (article 141) and accountability framework for midwives. This, combined with other interventions, is aimed at strengthening national health cadres' capacities to deliver prevention, protection and care services to women and girls who survive FGM, including training for more than 400 health care providers on FGM complications and societal norms modification.

The development of the reproductive maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health (RMNCAH) essential health service packages and integration of this package into the National Essential Health Benefit Package in partnership with NCHP and the Directorate General of Curative Medicine at the Federal Ministry of Health and Khartoum Ministry of Health. Implementation of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) programmes second phase to alleviate COVID-19's indirect influence on RMNCAH. Key mitigation strategies and approaches were identified as a result of this initiative, and they have been incorporated into the joint sustainability plan. A nationwide Maternal and Child Health Taskforce is being formed to provide supervision and support during the implementation process.

The United Nations aided the federal and state Ministries of Health, as well as civil society organizations, by providing HIV prevention, testing, care, and treatment to people living with HIV and other critical and vulnerable populations. By the end of 2021, a total of 12,155 PLHIV (over 25 percent of the estimated number of PLHIV in Sudan) had been placed on long-term antiretroviral therapy (ART). Over the course of the year, testing services were delivered to 129,821 people across the country, resulting in the detection of 2,505 new HIV cases.

The UN has also aided the Federal Ministry of Health in revising HIV testing and treatment recommendations, as well as training health-care professionals in HIV management. Using the Integrated Management of Adolescent and Adult Illness (IMAI) training package, 80

healthcare professionals from ART centers across the country were trained on new guidelines in two rounds. Pharmacists and focal persons working in ART centers and decision makers in the national supply chain were instructed on the new standards and the recording and reporting of drug supply.

During the crisis in Tigray, the UN worked with the government and civil society to ensure that HIV services were available to Ethiopian refugees crossing the border into Sudan's eastern region. A total of 912 refugees were tested for HIV by the end of 2021, with 48 of them testing positive. A total of 612 refugees have been placed on ART. 321 (52.5 percent) are female and nine are children.

In 2021, the three centers served a total of 13,237 vulnerable migrants with a variety of services, including emotional support, legal assistance, emergency food assistance and medical assistance. Patients were examined, fundamental health care needs were treated, medication was provided, patients were sent to hospitals/clinics for general investigations and more specialist treatment, and COVID-19 preventive programmes and treatment were also provided as well as personal protective equipment (PPE) for COVID-19.

The UN and the Government of Sudan developed a master plan and implemented construction of the Kassala Health Citadel (KHC), funded by the Government of Italy, to bring together existing and proposed health facilities into one location. The KHC will function as a complex of public medical facilities (medical units) offering a comprehensive package of healthcare services for the inhabitants of the city and as a referral facility in the eastern region of Sudan. The rehabilitation of the maternity hospital, the blood bank, the diagnostic centers, and the new general surgical unit aim to centralize the management of the facilities and provide access to health services to the 1.8 million residents of Kassala state and 570,000 refugees. Furthermore, the UN continued the construction and rehabilitation of the old Doka hospital, a new hospital in Doka to provide health services to the local communities in Doka village and nearby areas, and a COVID-19 isolation center so that over 20,500 refugees and IDPs have access to the health facilities.

In addition, the UN Help and Focal Persons provided food, sanitary products, and medical assistance to 27 migrants in Darfur states. With counter-trafficking and counter-smuggling awareness raising communications, the Gedarif Migrant Resource Centre reached another 5,677 Ethiopian refugees. The Centers give direct humanitarian aid to captured migrants in administrative detention and

custody. In Khartoum and Gedarif, 1,351 migrants received humanitarian assistance in 2021.

Through various online and offline mediums, a campaign to raise awareness about COVID-19 prevention in various migrant community languages was launched. It promoted social cohesion between migrant and host communities during COVID-19, and further developed a collective understanding of each other's culture, highlighting migrants' contributions to Sudanese society. An audience of 17,000 was reached.

The Federal Ministry of Health purchased \$3 million of medical supplies for the National Laboratory, with assistance from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and the United Nations, in order to eliminate neglected tropical diseases.

The UN built health units at Eid EL Fursan, South Darfur, and Tawilla, North Darfur, in accordance with the goals laid out in the State Ministry of Health's State Health Plan. The newly constructed Health Unit provides primary health care to the surrounding villages, including sexual and reproductive health. The UN also helped to fund the construction of two semi-permanent primary healthcare facilities and two isolation units. Throughout the year, all health facilities were operational and provided free healthcare to both refugees and the neighboring host community.

In addition, the UN offered primary health care services to 77,377 (34,278 females and 43,099 males) Ethiopian refugees with consultations (31 percent of the total consultations delivered to host community members). Respiratory tract infection (13 percent), malaria (12 percent), urinary tract infection (8 percent), and acute diarrhea (8 percent) were the primary causes of morbidity (proportional morbidity) (7 percent). Three primary healthcare centers and one health post were operated by the health partners.

In addition, a medical referral system was built and maintained in which patients with life-threatening conditions were sent to and treated at secondary and tertiary healthcare levels. COVID-19 vaccination of refugees was carried out with the help of 13 other operational partners providing primary health care services, with a total of 17,864 refugees over the age of 18 receiving their first dose of the vaccine out of a total of 36,013 refugees eligible for the vaccine, resulting in a coverage of 50 percent. In East Sudan, mass immunization efforts reached 40,656 and 37,060 refugees, respectively, who were immunized against cholera and yellow fever. This was in addition to the

Expanded Programme on Immunization's support for routine immunization.

There are national primary health care facilities available to Syrian refugees and asylum seekers in Khartoum, however only a small subset of services is free. The Commission for Refugees (COR) has continued to provide primary, secondary, and tertiary health care to Syrian refugees in Khartoum by paying for their medications, surgeries, lab tests, and other diagnostic procedures. where 2,156 persons could receive medical care.

In 2021, the UN continues to work closely with the Ministry of Health and other partners to provide vital primary healthcare services in refugee hosting places in order to improve the population's health. Twenty-one primary healthcare centres offered a total of 264,570 consultations. Staff, critical drugs and other medical supplies, as well as other operational expenditures, were donated to these clinics. In addition, referral procedures for patients in need of secondary health care services delivered at government-run hospitals were established and maintained. A total of 17,363 people were referred to secondary healthcare facilities and received the attention they needed.

Through the establishment of community-based acute malnutrition management programmes in three primary health care centers, the UN supported the provision of nutrition services to children under the age of five years. A total of 40 community volunteers were recruited and trained in nutrition screening using the Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC). Malnutrition was assessed in 27,843 Persons of concern (POCs) (24,496 children under the age of 5 years and 3,347 pregnant and lactating women). In the stabilization facilities, 44 children with severe acute malnutrition and medical problems were referred for treatment. The outpatient therapeutic programmes (OTP) enrolled 459 children, while the supplementary feeding programmes enrolled 2,397 children and 291 pregnant and lactating women. Each of the programmes performance indicators (recovery rate, defaulter rate and mortality rate) met its requirements. The UN played a key role in the coordination of operational partners, providing nutrition services, supporting the refugee operation by providing nutritional supplies (RUTF and Ready-to-Use Supplementary Feeding or RUSF) for the management of both severe and moderate acute malnutrition.

The nutritional health of the refugee and host community population in Um Shalaya refugee camp was improved by implementing the Community-based Management of

Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) program, which targeted children under the age of five and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). For acute malnutrition, 878 children and 41 PLW were restored. The CMAM in East Sudan refugee camps improved the nutritional status of children under five years of age and pregnant and lactating women.

In all camps, a total of 26,277 children under the age of five were screened, with 3,560 children diagnosed with moderate acute malnutrition and 937 children diagnosed with severe acute malnutrition. Those children were later admitted to the nutrition programmes and received proper nutrition.

A total of 29,104 individuals received crucial information on IYCF practices such as exclusive breastfeeding and complementary breastfeeding through the IYCF. In addition, all camps evaluated a total of 25,091 pregnant and lactating women, with 1,199 pregnant and lactating mothers classified as being at risk of malnutrition and admitted to the supplementary feeding program. The United Nations provided nutritional supplies (RUTF and RUSF) for the treatment of both severe and moderate acute malnutrition. This assistance was important in keeping the cure rates for both MAM and SAM by over 95 percent.

The United Nations and its partners continued to promote CMAM, which entails identifying and treating malnourished children aged 6 months to five years. Malnutrition was treated for a total of 7,134 malnourished children. Nutritional supplements were provided to treat moderate and severe acute malnutrition.

Furthermore, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health and partners, the United Nations continued to support inpatient management of severe acute malnutrition in the country, providing support to the operation of 144 functional stabilization centres that treat approximately 31,000 children with medical complications,



as well as providing medical and laboratory supplies to 48 stabilization centres and renovating nine stabilization centres across the country. In addition, 144 stabilization centres received vital medicines.

#### Essential Medicines (SAM Kits) distribution for stabilization centres @WHO

The United Nations provided 792 health workers with 31 training sessions on topics such as inpatient wasting management, overall CMAM, IYCF, growth monitoring, nutrition surveillance and data management, and continued monitoring and supportive supervision at the field level. In addition, 1,496 kits were distributed to 144 nutrition facilities for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition.



SUN UN Network, Head of UN agencies meeting. @WHO

In 2021, building on the existing health information system, defining nutrition indicators and identifying data sources from several databases for complete analysis and reporting, the UN supported FMOH in developing a functioning and sustainable nutrition monitoring system. Anthropometric measurement equipment, mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) measuring tapes, infant hanging scales, and length/height measurement boards were provided to 48 nutrition centers, and 139 health workers were trained through seven five-day workshops/sessions on nutrition surveillance and database management. The Ministry of Health received computer equipment (seven laptops). As a result, skilled health workers created and published "bulletins" of surveillance data at the national and subnational levels. On a quarterly and annual basis, nutrition partners receive bulletins that incorporate data from all states.

The National Nutrition Policy 2021-2025 was approved by the FMOH. With UN and nutrition support, the policy was modified and a Sudan Global Action Plan (GAP) for the prevention and management of wasting was produced. During the year 2021, Sudan had the privilege of chairing

the SUN UN Network. The network is the result of the combined efforts of the member UN agencies.



Counselling sessions for pregnant and lactating women @Samrab PHC, Khartoum, @WHO

The UN has been supporting programmes sponsored by Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) in four states: Khartoum, Kassala, Gedarif, and the Red Sea, in collaboration with the Federal and State Ministries of Health. The initiative combines preventive and curative activities with a primary and secondary health care focus. The initiative, among other things, promotes maternal nutrition counseling, with an emphasis on promoting IYCF and food diversity at PHC levels to enhance maternity and lactating women's knowledge of the need to prevent malnutrition in both mothers and children.

The high frequency of infectious illnesses and malnutrition necessitates scaling up treatment and prevention simultaneously. Strengthening health systems and providing of primary health care services are vital to alleviating dietary deficits and enhancing nutrition status among the population. As a result, in the four states listed, a combination of soft and hard actions is being undertaken at the PHC and SC levels. The interventions at the PHC level are aimed at building the capacities of health and nutrition personnel in terms of maternal nutrition counseling and the international code for marketing breastfeeding replacements. After receiving the training, the health professionals conduct food demonstration sessions in specific PHC centers to educate PLWs about breastfeeding, complementary feeding, and dietary diversity.

The project also aims to improve the capacity of stabilization centers to handle complex SAM cases by increasing staff capacity (via training and mentoring sessions), supporting infrastructure, and procuring supplies. The initiative aims to fill in the gaps in the

provision of essential nutrition actions by bridging the gap between primary and secondary health care, ensuring a continuous flow of care and preventing malnutrition relapses. Other major aspects of the programme include updating the country's existing food composition table (which dates back to 1986). This update began in 2021, will be completed in 2022 and will aid in the development and promotion of local recipes. The effort also aided the nutrition surveillance system by improving routine collection of children's nutrition data, complementing existing small-scale survey-based approaches.

### Output 3.2. Targeted populations have improved access to/and use of safe and adequate WASH services.

The UN, with support from the Federal Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources and other partners, provided systematic access to WASH services with high-quality technical assistance and significant advocacy following the government's launch of the National Water Supply Transformational Plan for 2021–2031 and a comprehensive assessment of WASH services in schools. A total of 16 out of 18 states in Sudan updated and implemented their open defecation-free (ODF) roadmaps, resulting in 355 newly certified ODF communities. Over 489,000 vulnerable children and 179,000 family members have access to sanitation facilities.

In 2021, Sudan initiated the development of a national roadmap for hand hygiene for all in collaboration with the United Nations. Over 739,000 people gained access to sustainable basic drinking water. Over 1.76 million people in Sudan were reached with behavior change campaigns delivering key messages on handwashing, water-handling, and disease prevention.

The urban water supply was developed to expand access to potable water to peri-urban Darfur areas and IDP camps, and the UN upgraded water supply infrastructure and built the capacity of urban water administrations. The UN also constructed 50 water kiosks, elevated water tanks with a capacity of 1300m, submersible pumps, and put in place 35 kilometers of distribution pipeline networks within Zalingei, which improved access to clean water and safe water for over 400,000 IDPs.

The United Nations supported 1.8 million residents, 570,000 refugees and 20,500 IDPs have access to sanitation facilities like latrines, washing units and waste disposal units (incinerators) through the rehabilitation and construction of water supply systems.

The UN helped to increase access to safe and appropriate water services in response to the COVID-19

pandemic, seasonal floods that damaged important communal water stations and latrines, and a major inflow of Ethiopian refugees into the eastern state of Gedarif. This included upgrading borehole/handpump to mini water yards with solar power systems; rehabilitation/construction of mini water yards; extension of water network between IDP camp and hosting communities; application of community-led approaches to total sanitation (CLTS) to engage the community in designing the responses and supporting the construction of more gender-, age-, and disability-sensitive latrines; and rehabilitation and maintenance of the sanitation.

The Darfur regions, as well as Red Sea State (Port Sudan), Gedarif (Galabad locality), West Kordofan (Al Fula and Kelik localities), South Kordofan (Dilling locality), Abyei (PCA box), and Khartoum were all part of UN WASH response to the COVID-19 pandemic. With Khartoum state, the UN designated three large hospitals as important isolation sites (Al Shaheed Hospital, Turkish Hospital and Ombadah Hospital). To improve effective waste management, the UN supported the construction of a rubbish storage room and the installation of medical waste incinerators, as well as the installation/rehabilitation of handwashing facilities.

In other states, the UN strengthened infection prevention and control (IPC) measures and hygiene services at points of entry such as state borders and airports. Installation of handwashing facilities and hygiene awareness programmes, as well as risk communication and community engagement initiatives were used to improve the community's understanding of COVID-19, refute disinformation, and promote healthier hygiene practices. UN seminars were held at the point of entry of El Fasher airport in North Darfur to produce standard operating procedures (SOPs) for airport workers. All COVID-19 response efforts were carried out in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders and the federal and state Ministries of Health.

In 2021, the UN helped vulnerable populations by assisting in the monitoring and surveillance of water sources to ensure that water quality meets health standards for safe drinking water by assisting in the implementation of water quality missions in 14 states (Gazira, Sennar, River Nile, Blue Nile, White Nile, West Darfur, East Darfur, North Darfur, South Darfur, Central Darfur, West Kordofan, Red Sea, Gedarif, and Kassala). As a result, 80.03 percent of households now have access to better drinking water. Alternatively, within 30 minutes of their residence, 73.73 percent of households have access to basic drinking water sources. In terms of

sanitation, only 37.4 percent of households had access to improved sanitation facilities, with as few as 2.1 percent of communities having no access to improved toilet facilities at all.

In South Darfur's Eid EL Fursan locality (17,000 beneficiaries) and North Darfur's Tawilla locality (7,000 beneficiaries), the UN built a water yard. The water yard was outfitted with wells and water tanks that were connected to a solar panel and a generator, lowering the water yard's operation and maintenance costs and allowing for long-term community use.

All of the camps in Gedarif have met the minimum latrine coverage criteria of 20 people per latrine. Both operational and implementing partners assist waste management and vector control on a regular basis, as well as with hygiene promotion. Personal hygiene kits were distributed to the entire community, ensuring proper menstruation and personal hygiene management. The average latrine coverage is 20 people per drop-hole, which is in line with the minimum standard. Communal latrines are used by everyone.

100 communal latrines and a corresponding number of showers were built as part of the Blue Nile response. Through seven hygiene promotion workshops and the distribution of information, education and communication materials, a total of 4056 people were reached with hygiene messages. A total of 160 handwashing stations were set up, and 755 people were given hygiene kits to improve their personal hygiene.

The efforts in East Sudan were restricted to the management of liquid and solid waste at the community and institutional levels (Shagarab Reception Centre). To a specific group of refugees, 9,405 pieces of soap weighing 250 gms were distributed. It is worth noting that operational partners and the regional WASH programmes provided significant bilateral support to the operation. In the Shagarab camps, for example, CARE International Switzerland (CIS) and Welthungerhilfe (WHH) provided 128 and 214 latrines, respectively. The number of family latrines climbed to 12,431 as a consequence of activities in 2021, including 3,098 units built by refugees themselves. In the Shagarab, Girba, and Wad Sharifey refugee camps, WASH funding supported hygiene promotion activities and awareness campaigns to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Each month, WASH partners, community health professionals and hygiene promoters visited 7,225 houses and delivered hygiene messages to 20,000 refugees. There were also 26,000 face masks distributed to refugees and schoolchildren, as well as the development of three COVID-19 awareness clubs in schools. At the end of the year, a knowledge, attitudes and practices survey was conducted at Shagarab camps,

Girba, Wad Sharifey, Um Gargour, Kilo 26, and Abuda camps, with the findings/outcomes informing future WASH sector planning.

Across all camps, routine waste management and vector control actions were carried out. WASH financial support provided 30 handwashing facilities, 3,000 IEC materials for hygiene education, and eight COVID-19 awareness programmes in three camps (Shagarab, Girba, and Wad Sharifey).

In the Khartoum Open Areas, eight gender-segregated family shared latrines were built in Bantiu settlement, and seven latrines in Naivasha were rehabilitated, for a total of 24 community-led clean-up and hygiene awareness campaigns (12 in Bantiu and 12 in Naivasha open areas). The programmes were followed by COVID-19 pandemic campaigns, which were modified to provide enough social separation between participants. In total, 508,392 pieces of 250g washing soap were provided to 42,366 refugees living in open locations over the course of six months. Each person received 450 grams every month. Furthermore, 6,000 women and girls of reproductive age in Bantiu and Naivasha were given six months of menstrual hygiene management materials (the kit included one bucket, six pieces of 250g laundry soap, three packets of disposable sanitary pads and three pieces of underwear). COVID-19-related awareness raising programmes were held in Bantiu and Naivasha to avoid and manage the health concerns linked with the virus. Following the public complaints, house-to-house messaging on COVID-19 risk communications and prevention measures was conducted using SMOH and WHO guidelines, as well as the distribution of 6,000 COVID-19-related IEC materials, reaching 24,253 people with awareness raising and COVID 19-related messages.

In 2021, in the White Nile State, the UN performed sanitation and hygiene promotion efforts in 11 refugee camps, with a target population of 179,262 South Sudanese refugees. The project enhanced access to sanitation facilities and raised awareness through both hard and soft components. 200 shared family latrines were built, 111 latrines blocks (five drop holes each) were built, 620 latrines were dislodged, 193 existing latrines were renovated, and 81 out-of-duty latrines were decommissioned. In addition, the initiative helped to prevent and control COVID-19 infection through home visits and mass awareness campaigns. Using the COVID-19 protocol, an estimated 179,000 people were reached with safe hygiene awareness. In addition, 84 handwashing facilities were provided, 45 handwashing facilities were rehabilitated, and the project supported 10

community hygiene promotion team leaders and 143 hygiene promoters with protected uniforms. The project aimed to increase access to hygiene promotion activities by supporting 117 clean-up and garbage disposal campaigns that helped to maintain a safe and clean hygiene environment in targeted areas. On a weekly basis, over 35,852 households received mobilization and awareness-raising initiatives aimed at improving personal and household hygiene. Similarly, the effort reached 49,579 people through soap and hygiene kit distribution. A number of hygiene promotion centres were refurbished with the goal of disseminating hygiene promotion messages in a conducive atmosphere.

### Output 3.3. Equitable access to quality education is improved for school-aged children and youths.

In 2021, the UN and the Ministry of Education supported 1,215,454 children by enabling their right to education through flexible and open learning systems. A total of 44,067 six-year-old children enrolled in Grade 1 during the year, and over 189,000 out-of-school children benefited from the Alternative Learning Programme (ALP). Furthermore, the competency frameworks for teachers, head teachers, and supervisors were revised to improve the enabling environment for learning. More than 13,400 teachers received training on phasing out cascade-level training and moving to a more systematic and supportive training environment with mentoring, supervision, and monitoring. The UN also provided direct support to school facilities for 4,450 students and supported approximately 17,855 refugee children outside of camps in accessing quality learning opportunities and the rehabilitation and extension of the Korean Vocational Training Centre for 250 students.

224 migrant children in Khartoum received help in gaining access to education by paying their school enrollment and registration fees at their local migrant community schools. The school support included primary and high school education for migrant students.

The United Nations built a two primary school at Eid EL Fursan, South Darfur and Tawilla, North Darfur. The school was equipped with a solar power system for lighting, running fans and powering electrical gadgets, allowing pupils to study in the school building. The primary school also functions as a testing center for Sudanese certificate exams.

In Khartoum, in 2021, there was contact with the Ministry of Education (MOE) at the federal and state levels. The Government of Sudan received strong support from the donor community, and there were numerous

development plans in place. The UN pledged to assist the Government in fulfilling its Global Refugee Forum (GRF) goal to gradually integrate refugee schooling. This promise was the focus of our collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Education.

The UN aided the sector and the Ministry of Education in conducting the Joint Education Needs Assessment (JENA), the results of which will guide future investment in the field. In addition, the UN worked with the Federal Ministry of the Environment to put plans in place for the projected World Bank International Development Association (IDA) 18 refugee and local community sub window. The proposals would take into account the most current JENA findings, as well as a costed workplan for refugee education completed in 2019 and the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP 2019-2023), which already addressed refugee education.

The cooperation with the State Ministry of Education and aiding vulnerable children in Khartoum continued in the state of Khartoum. In Khartoum, a total of 6,038 refugee children (2,998 males and 3,040 girls) have been enrolled in various primary schools. South Sudanese, Syrian, Yemeni, Ethiopian, Eritrean, and Congolese children were among them. 299 refugee children (144 boys and 155 girls) were enrolled in secondary school. The United Nations helped 2,000 needy children with school expenses at community schools that house Ethiopian, Eritrean and Congolese refugee children. In addition, 88 children were given financial assistance with Grade 8 examination expenses, and 295 refugee teachers and 130 host community teachers were trained as part of a partnership arrangement with the State Ministry of Education in Khartoum. The training content mostly focused on COVID-19 protocols, as well as the new Sudanese curriculum. 299 children received support for secondary education through the payment of school fees, while 19 children received support for Grade 3 exams through the payment of examination fees.

In addition, the UN backed the selection of 150 new Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) tertiary education scholarships. These were Sudanese refugee students enrolling in several universities. As a result, there are now 484 refugee university students pursuing post-secondary education. South Sudanese students account for the majority of these, with 257 pupils in Al Jazira and Gedarf States. The strategic partnership with the Ministry of Education was part of Sudan's ongoing efforts to facilitate the gradual integration of refugee education into the national system, which was one of the Global Compact for Refugees' key pledges.

The pre-primary and primary education levels were targeted by these activities.

By the end of 2021, a total of 7,138 pupils (46 percent girls) had been enrolled: 1,863 students in pre-primary, 4,225 in primary, and 1,050 in secondary. Based on 82 percent of the biometric registration data, the pre-primary enrolment rate was 90 percent, compared to 50 percent in primary and 12 percent in secondary in the new refugee caseload. By December 2021, no learning intervention had been implemented in the Babikri settlement. However, there are plans to expand interventions in the coming year.

UN support was provided to 10,760 children in Kassala State through a partnership agreement with the State Ministry of Education. They were given school supplies, such as stationery. In the same state, 107 overage children received financial assistance for ALP education, which included school uniforms. According to the Ministry of Education's payroll criteria, 348 volunteer teachers got monthly rewards for the entire year. The same agreement with the State Ministry of Education provided capacity development support to 40 refugee teachers and 30 host community teachers.

UN help was provided to 1,566 children (752 boys and 844 girls) from Um Gargour camp in Gedarif State under a collaboration arrangement with the State Ministry of Education. School materials, including stationery, were given to the students. According to the Ministry of Education's payroll criteria, 20 volunteer teachers got monthly rewards for the entire year.

UN assistance was provided to 447 children from Faw 5 camp in Gezira State (243 boys and 204 girls). School materials, including stationery, were given to the students. According to the Ministry of Education's payroll criteria, 19 volunteer teachers got monthly rewards for the entire year. In the state of South Darfur, 294 CAR refugee children (175 boys and 119 girls) were enrolled in various levels of primary school.

In East Darfur, 3,773 primary school students and 265 secondary school students were helped through a partnership with the State Ministry of Education. Examination costs were paid for 59 elementary school students in Grade 8 and 12 secondary school students in Grade 3. In addition, 10 latrines were renovated, 150 tables and seats were provided for schoolchildren, and three sports kits were distributed. The State Ministry of Education provided training to both refugee (65 teachers) and host community (13 teachers). Throughout the year, 102 refugee volunteer teachers earned monthly rewards.

6,525 primary education pupils and 116 secondary school children in South Darfur were assisted through a partnership with World Vision International. School materials, including stationery, were distributed to 1,436 pupils in elementary school and to all students in secondary schools. 837 pupils in basic schools received assistance with their school expenses, and 20 refugee volunteer instructors earned their monthly stipends throughout the year. Finally, the teachers were given six office desks, six office cabinets and 20 chairs.

The prevention of COVID-19 was aided by the education sector. In basic school, a total of 637 refugee volunteer teachers and 214 host community teachers received capacity-building based on the Federal Ministry of Education's COVID-19 guidelines. A similar training session was held for 127 refugee volunteer secondary school teachers. In addition, 121,582 reusable facemasks were obtained and distributed primarily in the states of White Nile and Gedarif. Finally, the construction of 96 latrines, the rehabilitation of four latrines, the construction of 15 handwashing stations, and the repair of 43 handwashing stations were all funded.

**Output 3.4. National and sub-national government partners have strengthened institutional capacities to develop and deliver child- and women-sensitive social protection, particularly to children and families in the most-vulnerable situations.**

The UN and the Government of Sudan demonstrated their commitment to strengthening social protection through the development of the country's first National Social Protection Strategy, as well as the launch of a new innovative cash-plus programme. The government-led "Mother and Child Cash Transfers Plus" (MCCT+) was launched and targets pregnant women and children under two years of age. The programme uses a novel cash plus approach, where regular cash payments are combined with social and behavioural change communication and complementary services. The Social Development Ministry signed a Letter of Intent to expand the MCCT+ to seven more states, including Darfur, South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

The UN supported increased access to utilization of GBV services at facility and community levels, the establishment of community-based GBV prevention structures, CMR and psycho-social support services, referral pathways and legal aid for survivors, GBV corners, and help lines. The National Standard Operating Procedures were updated and rolled out at a sub-national

level. The roadmap for Article 141 of the Criminal Code, criminalizing FGM has also been rolled out. Furthermore, the United Nations has supported the FMOH in rolling out the CMR protocol and development of the Adolescent Health Strategy.

The 16-Days of Activism campaign was conducted, focusing on raising awareness of GBV, addressing stigma and promoting the National GBV Helpline. Collaboration with civil society organizations (CSOs) was accompanied by national- and state-level campaigns in nine local dialects, which resulted in increased investments in the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and the resumed active co-leadership of the PSEA network in Sudan.

164 government staff and civil society personnel were trained on PSEA. As a result, 615 marginalized women and girls were reached by life skills programmes that build their health, social, and economic assets; 867 service providers (including members of community based GBV protection networks) were trained on GBV issues; 308 law enforcement officers and 13 women's centres in four states were rehabilitated and equipped.

A total of 41,608 people were reached by GBV awareness-raising sessions. 40 GBV One-Stop Centres have been established and are functional in health facilities in four states to improve access to quality, confidential, age-appropriate, and compassionate health-care services. Small-scale businesses for women and girls were supported to run food processing, sewing, tailoring, and the making of improved stoves.

In 2021, the UN continued to give technical assistance to the Government of Sudan for the Sudan Family Support Programme (SFSP), which aims to provide Sudanese families with direct cash transfers to alleviate the effects of the country's persistent economic woes. The World Food Programme (WFP) continues to assist the government in the development of a cash transfer delivery and payment system that allowed the Sudanese government to register, enroll beneficiaries, compile payment lists, and reconcile payments. By providing technical assistance, equipment and infrastructure to the Ministry of Finance's Programme Implementation Unit (PIU), a total of 2.7 million families in 18 Sudanese states were registered, with 1.4 million receiving payments. In Khartoum, North and West Darfur, 50,755 families received cash.

A 10-member UN team of professionals was sent to the PIU to assist with community communication, data analysis and management tools, server purchase, and the

creation of a management information system and payment solutions. The team also created a complaint feedback mechanism, which includes a call centre, to receive and track citizen complaints and feedback via a toll-free number, as well as a bespoke beneficiaries' complaints management programme (SugarCRM).

Over 75 social workers from the Ministry of Social Development have been trained in enrolment centres to receive in-person complaints, and the contracted financial service providers have developed a detailed Agent Network Strategy to ensure access to agents in rural areas and minimize queues during cash disbursement as part of expanding Child Friendly Space CFS in the field.

Using the official website and social media pages, the UN also assisted the PIU in raising beneficiary knowledge of the Sudan Family Support Programmes (SFSP) throughout 2021. Following the conclusion of the SFSP pilot, the UN held joint lessons-learned workshops with the PIU and the World Bank in mid-October, which provided useful information for rolling out the SFSP across the country, while also emphasizing the need to improve beneficiary outreach, payment services, complaints and feedback mechanisms, financial inclusion, M&E and control mechanisms, and management information system.

In 2021, 19 Shelter/Non-Food Items (S/NFI) Cluster partners assisted 47,777 IDP families with non-food item (NFI) assistance, with the UNHCR Core Pipeline reaching 38,098 households (38,098 NFI kits). Most people lived in the states listed below. A total of 8,362 households of IDPs in North Darfur have received incomplete NFI kits (newly displaced IDPs 3,463 households, disaster affected 1,499 households, people with specific needs (PSNs) 1,200 households and returnees 2,200 households). NFI kits have been distributed to 14,484 households of IDPs in South Darfur (12,370 households of new arrivals and due to tribal conflicts and 2,114 flood-affected households). In East Darfur, 78 households of newly displaced IDPs were supplied with partial kits (37 cooking sets, 142 plastic sheets, 165 jerrycans, 182 carpets, 83 mosquito nets and 21 buckets).

In Gedarif, all new entrants from Ethiopia were provided with NFI kits in a blanket distribution, with a total of 11,048 kits delivered in 2021. NFI kits were sent to a total of 1,377 households in Blue Nile. All of these figures are based on the number of Persons of Concern (POCs) who were able to migrate from the border to the refugee camp. Persons of Concern (POCs) received 1-tent, 4-blankets, 4-sleeping mats, 2-jerry cans, 1-kitchen set, 1-plastic sheet, 1-solar lamp, 1-bucket, 2-mosquito net, and soap (2/person) were among the items in their NFI kits. The UN

provided targeted NFI assistance of 7,986 NFI kits to replace worn out, damaged, or stolen goods to satisfy replenishment needs of the protracted refugee caseload.

The UN has supplied 38,739 NFI kits to meet the needs of rising numbers of new arrivals from South Sudan (81,203 people) as well as the needs of the protracted caseload (over 700,000 people) already hit by disastrous flooding in 2021. The UN funded the acquisition and distribution of 2,719,919 pieces of 250mg soap to support improved handwashing practices, which is a vital preventive step for the spread of COVID-19.

In 2021, the UN estimated the vulnerability of 64,638 IDPs and IDP returnees. The Community Base Protection Networks (CBPNs) were essential in identifying vulnerable community people in need of assistance and directing them to relevant services. Overall, 42,668 People with Specific Needs (PSNs) were identified, with most of them being referred to child protection and GBV service providers, however some were also given psychosocial support from the Ministry of Social Affairs (MOSA). Some older people and people with disabilities received material assistance from UN partners, such as assistive gadgets and clothing, as well as medical treatment, psychosocial support services and prosthetics for people with disabilities.

Alight, a UN implementing partner, provided the following assistance to people with special needs: 1,380 PSNs (884 women and 496 men) received NFIs, such as mattresses, beds, and bedsheets, while 257 PSNs (145 women and 112 men) received an additional food basket. Those with chronic conditions, pregnant and nursing moms, and those on medication were among those who benefited. Out of the 150 people who were medically tested, 39 people with impairments (28 women and 11 men) received mobility aids such as walking sticks, wheelchairs, and tricycle bikes. For 83 people with mental health difficulties, 104 psychological support sessions were held, with 60 cases directed to Sudan's Commission for Refugees (COR) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) for shelter support, eight cases to the State Council Child Welfare (SCCW) for child-friendly services, and 44 cases to the health clinic for mental health and psychosocial support. Alight backed the referral of one person with mental health issues to the Gedarif Mental Health Department for additional clinical management and support. In Q4, Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba refugees comp conducted a verification for persons with special needs to verify and update PSN statuses.

Furthermore, security personnel have been stationed at protection desks at various distribution centres and other

service locations to receive complaints and update PSN statuses. Another success that is anticipated to result in an increase in the number of PSNs receiving targeted support is the ratification of the interagency referral form for all protection partners to be able to refer protection cases to various service points with basic requirements of personal information protection. In Darfur, 863 PSNs have been assisted through in-kind and livelihoods, with the goal of meeting their urgent needs, lowering their vulnerabilities, and mitigating protection threats. The provision of NFIs and the provision of birth certificates to their children has been implemented.

The written SOPs for the PSN referral pathway have been completed and will be finalized in 2022 with inter-agency approval. In Khartoum, 39 PSNs (21 females and 18 men) were helped with a variety of aids, including a wheelchair, two walking sticks and 36 spectacles. Children received 24 of the 36 pairs of eyeglasses supplied. The equipment provided made a difference in the lives of the refugees, but the unfulfilled demands remained significant in comparison to the resources available.

## Main challenges to implementation

- Increased attention needs to be directed to hard-to-reach populations, such as nomadic populations, as well as populations affected by protracted crises, in line with the commitment to "leave no one behind" and the emphasis on "reaching the furthest behind first".
- Improving the integration of GBV and SRH services at scale is critical to ensuring the best quality of care for survivors and maximize entry points for service provision.
- Multisectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships and ecosystems, including those with public and private entities, are vital to addressing common challenges.
- Strategic engagement and active participation of youth and Y-peers, particularly in the development and implementation of state-level activities, facilitated implementation and created good momentum for youth-targeting interventions on SRH, GBV, COVID-19, and mixed migration issues for university students.
- There is a need for continuous monitoring and review of the security situation on the ground with partners to mitigate delays in project delivery and communicate changes to donors on time.
- Increased agility in intervention implementation modality is required for the current economic and political situation in the country.

- Due to the volatile political, security and economic situation, the needs have drastically increased, and severely limited funding continues to present a challenge. In 2021, 440,000 people were internally displaced due to inter-communal violence compared to 30,000 in 2020, yet the funding levels reduced. Long lead times associated with international procurement are also a challenge, particularly considering the increased insecurity, while customs clearance procedures have become even more complicated as a result of the breakdown of government institutions, and the blockade of the port by protestors, as well as alternative routes through Egypt, continue to impede the delivery of NFIs.
- There are insufficient funds. Market dynamics have been impacted by a limited scope of interventions combined with inflation.
- There is high staff turnover, particularly in light of the political upheaval in Sudan, as well as logistical obstacles in transporting nutritional supplies to far-flung places with inadequate health care infrastructure.
- The UN and its partners were unable to support the provision of quality healthcare services due to a lack of finance and poor health services at government hospitals. In addition, frequent strikes by health-care workers in government institutions have hampered the delivery of secondary healthcare services. The response's scale was limited due to resource constraints.
- Due to the poor soil and high-water table, fully lined pits were the only option for latrines. These pits were expensive to construct and handle in terms of exhausting filled pits and sludge removal to safe areas.
- Work delivery was hampered by lengthy negotiations for FSM unit land distribution and delayed approval of sanitation facility designs by competent authorities. Sludge disposal convenience and sustainability were further hampered by a lack of suitable land available near the camps.
- Protection services are restricted due to the government's inability to analyze and respond to the needs of PSNs. The Ministry of Social Development and social professionals, for example, are not always available in all areas to give individual counseling and psychosocial support. Furthermore, the majority of social workers are men, but the majority of GBV victims are women. Inter-communal confrontations

occurred often, resulting in a considerable number of displacements and increased demands. Furthermore, the region has a limited number of competent protection partners, as well as limited resources, to meet the demands of all people in need of protection.

- Keeping interventions targeting PSNs synchronized as the operation moved from an emergency to a more stabilized response phase remained a critical problem. It was challenging to verify that all cases received proper treatment and that cases were not left neglected when referred to other services with so many partners working with PSNs. Other limitations were a lack of supplementary feeding for patients with chronic illnesses who require more food intake in order to take their medications.



UNDP Sudan - Rule of Law@2021



## Governance, Rule of Law, and Institutional Capacity Development.

Output 4.1 Justice institutions and administrative bodies are strengthened to provide equitable, effective, and accountable justice services and fair and transparent asylum procedures, and communities and vulnerable groups, including asylum seekers, enjoy enhanced access to justice and asylum procedures, and are empowered to demand respect for their human rights.

In 2021, the UN supported the government of Sudan on the implementation of the transitional agenda in accordance with the Transitional Constitutional Document 2019 (CD) and the Juba Peace Agreement 2020 (JPA). In this respect, several projects have been launched in collaboration with Sudan's Ministry of Justice (MOJ), Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Federal Governance.

The UN supported constitutional and electoral reform, institutional reform and the establishment of various commissions under the CD, as well as continued assistance to conflict-torn areas such as Darfur through State Liaison Functions (SLF) and Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) projects. The strategy and legal framework for constitution-making processes have been developed in close consultation with the Minister of Justices, along with the timeline for each milestone of the process.

Furthermore, through multi-stakeholder consultations, the UN produced an assessment report with the support of the Regional Electoral Bureau, identifying areas that needed to be addressed before long-term electoral interventions. A six-month Protection of personal Injury (PPI) was drafted, identifying and planning support for

electoral reforms, institutional capacity-building and widening the civic space.

The UN has supported the Ministry of Justice by drafting a bill for the Anti-Corruption Commission as its first intervention. The Anti-Corruption Commission was one of the main priorities for the transitional government. It is critical at the national level and a prerequisite for the assessment of Sudan's eligibility under the HIPC arrangement. A consultation process has been planned with different stakeholders prior to submission to the two-council joint meeting for adoption. Further interventions to prevent corruption in different sectors, including health, finance, and other public institutions (in addition to capacity-building and training programmes to strengthen investigative capacity for the centrality of transitional justice) resulted in a draft Transitional Justice Commission Act.

Furthermore, the consultation raised awareness about transitional justice concepts, raised understanding and application of the Peace Commission Act, which is in its final stage before becoming a law, and raised awareness around draft legislation for the established commission took place.

The UN provided technical assistance and training for the Ministry of Justice to support a comprehensive project on legal reform, which involves over 400 laws, frameworks and the establishment of an independent legal reform commission.

On institutional reform, the UN supported the MOJ to embark on a process aimed at reforming and restructuring the Ministry and launching its Strategic Plan.

The UN supported Sudan's Judiciary to convene a national conference aimed at discussing substantive institutional reforms that included, inter alia, independence of the judiciary; availability and accessibility of judicial services; gender equality within the judiciary; digitalization; and several important themes. The conference produced a wide range of recommendations and ways to transform these into strategic and working plans. Furthermore, the UN Support to Local Governance programmes aimed to reform the Local Governance Act and strengthen national and local authorities' capacity in terms of planning and service delivery. In this respect, a draft law on local governance has been produced and is expected to be adopted nationwide.

The UN continued to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Labour and Administrative Reforms (MOL) in 2021 to help them finalize the draft of the National Labour

Migration Policy and an action plan. To ensure the protection of Sudanese labour migrants abroad and promote regular migration, the MOL is developing a framework for Bilateral Labour Migration Agreement (BLMA) as a model to follow when drafting or revising bilateral agreements with countries of destination. The BLMA framework will assist the Ministry of Labour in negotiating an agreement with destination nations to govern Sudanese labour migration.

Furthermore, by completing and certifying the mapping of Sudan's migration policies and regulations in close collaboration with the National Population Council, Sudan will be one step closer to drafting its National Migration Policy. In 2020, the UN, in collaboration with the MOL, conducted two assessments: one on recruitment agency practices in Sudan, and the other on the existing Pre-Departure (PDO) Orientation Module in Sudan, to ensure the protection of Sudanese labour migrants during recruitment processes and in the count. The findings were then evaluated at a workshop in February 2021, which informed the development of safe migration brochures for two countries of destination (the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Qatar) in order to protect Sudanese migrant workers from possible exploitation and abuse while working abroad.

The United Nations held training sessions in Khartoum to promote understanding of international standards for ethical recruitment. The seminars emphasized the role of government and international collaboration in advancing ethical recruiting, as well as the importance of bilateral labour agreements and the UN-led International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS) standard in advancing ethical recruitment. During the discussion, they explored the problems they face during the recruitment process.

The UN also assists migrants in vulnerable situations (e.g., those who have been apprehended and are held in administrative detention or custody) to obtain legal assistance services such as legal consultations and legal representation outside of court. The UN also conducted a review of the Sudanese legal framework and assessed the conditions of migrants in administrative detention in Sudan, as well as provided recommendations for improving migrants' detention conditions and exploring viable alternatives to detention.

Individual complex situations requiring legal assistance in the birth registration and nationality application procedures were identified throughout 2021. A total of 31 cases were aided through various legal aid interventions, including legal advice, administrative assistance, and

legal assistance, such as representation in courts on matters connected to civil/birth registration and confirmation or acquisition of Sudanese nationality.

The UN's legal assistance response in Darfur provided paralegal support to 4,063 IDPs and provided 75 IDPs with formal court representation (48 males, 37 females). In addition, 10,070 IDPs were educated about their legal rights. To ensure unhindered access to justice and legal redress, and to combat impunity, 1,064 refugees in Darfur received legal aid, legal counseling, and court representation. Regular coordination, advocacy, and training sessions with law enforcement agencies and refugee leaders were also held. Mutawinat, one of our partners, supplied these services.

In Khartoum, UN legal support was provided to 1,158 people of concern by the two legal aid partners, Awatif and Associates and Mutawinat. The two legal partners operate together, with Awatif focusing on jail monitoring matters and Mutawinat on civil court issues. From the total number of instances listed above, 389 were detention cases, and they were all freed.

68 government officials and civil society organizations, including judges, prosecutors, police officers, law university professors, National Commissions on Human Rights, and legal aid service providers attended a two-day workshop on the concept of international protection, the legal framework for international protection, refugee protection during mixed migration and urban refugee policy. This workshop is the first in a series of capacity-building events that will run until 2022.

In the Counter-Trafficking Unit and the Alien Monitoring Department, four interpreters and four social workers were hired for a month to help the police interact with victims of human trafficking and to offer psychosocial support to Protection of Civilians in police custody.

The UN aided in the improvement of child protection specialized services by providing capacity-building activities to various justice officials, police officers, military officials, and armed groups so that they could provide case management, family tracing and reunification, and psychosocial support to children. 20 judges from the target localities in West Kordofan were trained on child-friendly court proceedings and diversion outside the legal system/alternative remedies to pre- and post-trial imprisonment. 623 police officers were trained in child protection and prevention services.

A training of members of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) was arranged in partnership with the State Council for Child Welfare as a

preventative measure to safeguard minors from recruitment into armed organizations. A total of 60 people were reached (30 from the SAF and 30 from the RSF). The programmes covered the basics of international instruments to combat child recruitment (including birth registration), international norms on child rights, the Child Act 2010, case management, and child referral channels (family tracing, reunification, and reintegration). In addition, trainings with law enforcement, social workers, lawyers, and judicial actors were held in Kassala and Gedarf to discuss the challenges and opportunities of diversion and the implementation of Article 147 of the Criminal Law, as well as to ensure the application of alternative measures to detention for pregnant and lactating women with children under the age of five.

Two assessments were completed to strengthen the children in alternative care system: one on institutions that house children and the other on the situation of children in SOS Children's Villages. The recommendations of these assessments were translated into action plans under the leadership of the National Council for Child Welfare (NCCW). In addition, 781 foster mothers received positive parenting training in order to provide a safe family environment for children who are not under the care of their parents. In addition, 361 social workers were trained and appointed, and they were subsequently assigned to provide prevention and protection services to children in various facilities.

The UN collaborated with partners and the National Curriculum Centre to incorporate basic child rights into primary and secondary school curricula. Following integration, a new curriculum was printed that addressed child rights. As a next step, teachers should be trained in how to effectively communicate those rights to children.

By concluding and certifying the mapping of migration policies and regulations for Sudan in close collaboration with the National Population Council, the UN continued to assist Sudan in moving closer to drafting the National Migration Policy. The Ministry of Labour and Administrative Reforms conducted two assessments in 2020: one on the practices of the recruitment agencies in Sudan and the second on the current Pre-Departure (PDO) Orientation Module in Sudan to ensure the protection of the Sudanese labour migrants during the recruitment process and in the country of destination. These assessments were done in order to strengthen the governance of labour migration and develop the capacity of both relevant Ministries and private sector partners. The UN assisted in the creation of a licensing and monitoring framework for recruitment agencies in Sudan;

the strengthening of the labour inspection process by creating Standard Operating Procedures; the creation of standard PDO modules and delivery mechanisms based on the assessment outcomes; and the development of standard PDO modules and delivery mechanisms.

Two two-day trainings 14-17 June in Khartoum improved the knowledge of 29 participants (20 officials and nine private recruitment companies) on the worldwide criteria for ethical recruitment. Government representatives, including those from the MOL, attended the first training on June 14–15, while recruitment agencies were the focus of the second session on June 16–17. The main themes included the importance of bilateral labour agreements and the International Recruiting Integrity System (IRIS) standard, as well as the role of the government and international collaboration in advancing ethical recruitment. As a follow-up to the two days of IRIS training for the MOL, administrative reformers, and recruiting agencies, 16 members from MOL and two representatives from recruiting firms participated in a round table discussion that the UN convened on 22 September 2021, where they both addressed the difficulties, they encounter while hiring new employees.

Justice was a slogan and a motivating call of the December revolution in 2018. Since then, the mechanisms and commitments for dealing with past crimes, as stipulated in the Juba Peace Agreement and the Constitutional Document have failed to materialize. Institutions such as the Special Court for Darfur, the Transitional Justice Commission and truth and reconciliation mechanisms were not initiated. The work of the Dismantling Committee raised tensions amongst the transition's components. Investigations into past crimes in Darfur and elsewhere, as well as into the dispersal of the 3 June 2019 sit-in, were not concluded. The individuals indicted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) have not been handed over to the Court. Following 25 October, the deaths and injuries of protestors and incidents of sexual violence has strengthened calls for justice and accountability. Without credible and holistic responses to historical and more recent violations, a damaging sense of impunity is likely to remain.

During our consultations, UNITAMS asked the participants for their views on ways for Sudan to deal with past human rights violations, their views on transitional justice and promoting national cohesion.

### Outcome of consultation

There was overwhelming consensus throughout the consultations and in the written initiatives on the urgent

need for accountability for past crimes in Sudan. Most participants emphasized the need for a renewed commitment to implementation of the promised mechanisms for transitional justice, beyond the regular justice sector. Respondents stressed that the transitional justice process must encompass all perpetrators, including at all levels of uniformed and non-uniformed personnel as well as militias and armed groups.

### Output 4.2 Government institutions have enhanced capacities to consolidate the rule of law according to international norms and standards.

The Rule of Law work contributed to increased efficiency across the criminal justice chain and the judicial systems in Darfur. Three prisons of the Government of Sudan's directorate in three Darfur states were rehabilitated in a needs-responsive and gender-sensitive manner. Furthermore, a total of 200 governmental prison officers (88 percent male, 12 percent female) were trained on their mandates in line with international standards. Four new Justice Confidence Centres (JCCs) were established to enhance access to justice for IDPs and vulnerable groups. Capacities of 45 members of the Bar Association and CSOs in West and Central Darfur States were reinforced for supporting access to justice and transitional justice in line with the Juba Peace Agreement. In line with human security principles, capacity-building and training for Bar members enabled them to minimize, prevent and eliminate human rights violations and abuses and to strengthen human rights institutions through infrastructural development and to ensure presence and, hence, effective monitoring, promotion and protection of human rights across the country through the provision of capacity-building activities for the Bar Association. The aim was to foster coordination and collaboration on rule of law, justice, security and accountability issues (including transitional justice) to assist them in playing their critical roles in the protective environment aspects of the Sudan National Protection of Civilian Plan and in the implementation of rule of law-related provisions of emerging peace agreements from the peace negotiations in Juba. However, the growing demand for reclaiming land rights has faced high resistance to change, particularly from the formal institutions with legal legitimacy and customary institutions that fight for public legitimacy over the masses that usually do not have the technical capacity to evaluate which side they should put their trust in.

In 2021, the UN helped Darfur communities in 20 localities and five return sites to determine what secure and

protected land rights looked like through a series of capacity-building trainings and advocacies. These endeavours enabled state stakeholders and communities to make policy choices that promoted implementation of the core principles of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). The UN also facilitated the establishment of the Institute of Land Governance at the University of Khartoum and supported the development of undergraduate and master's curriculum. The Director of the Institute was appointed through the approval of the university senate and a decree of the university's vice chancellor. These efforts are expected to reinforce government capacity to implement not only the Darfur regional action plan but also a country-wide action plan for the implementation of VGGT.

As part of its institutional capacity-building activities, the UN collaborates closely with appropriate authorities to develop Sudan's border management capability through technical assistance such as technical trainings, cross-border conversation facilitation and equipment support. The UN worked to educate frontline border officials on various aspects of border management and provided training on document examination and fraud detection, identifying human trafficking and migrant smuggling cases, introducing the concept of Humanitarian Border Management, and assisting in the development of better capacities to respond to migration crises quickly and effectively. The UN specifically trained 146 personnel from the Passport and Civil Registration Corporation (PCRC) in several aspects of border management, including document examination and fraud detection, immigration, and border management. This was accomplished by holding seven training sessions, one of which was a training of trainer's session.

Furthermore, the UN, in collaboration with the Judicial and Legal Sciences Institute (JLSI), held the first specialized national workshop in Sudan on the development of legislation to combat migrant smuggling, with the participation of a representative from the National Committee for Combating Trafficking, the Ministry of Labour, and criminal justice practitioners including judges. Additionally, in order to facilitate national adoption of the Smuggling Protocol and build capacity of relevant Government of Sudan officials involved in the domestication process of the Smuggling Protocol in Sudan, the UN conducted a study to advocate the benefits of national adoption of the protocol and the different steps and key issues that need to be considered during the adoption process and to build mutual

relationship between the counterparts for future cooperation.

The Government adopted an anti-trafficking law in 2014, which was amended in February 2021 to define exploitation and remove the requirement of a demonstration of force, fraud, or coercion in child trafficking crimes, thereby bringing it in line with the international definition of human trafficking. In September 2021, Sudan launched its second National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking (2021-2024).

The UN submitted commentary on the Sudanese Nationality Act 1994 (as amended in 2005, 2011 and 2018) to the Minister of Justice in August 2021 as part of its advocacy with the Sudanese authorities, especially the Ministry of Justice, on developing/implementing domestic nationality legislation in accordance with the international standards.

By actively participating in the consultation workshops held in February 2021, the UN also helped to develop new SOPs on birth registration, under the direction of the Civil Registry and with technical assistance from the National Council on Child Welfare (NCCW).

The necessity to revise the National IDPs policy 2009 in order to be in accordance with the IDP guiding principles and adapt to the latest developments in the displacement issue was discussed by the protection sector with the Government counterpart Ministry of Social Development and Humanitarian Aid Commission at the beginning of 2021. The idea was well received by the Government, and it was decided to hold a workshop where all pertinent Government players would participate in order to discuss and develop a proposal. Sadly, this has been postponed because of the coup.

With regard to the National Plan on the Protection of Civilians, the UN collaborated to equip state-level Protection of Civilian Committees in Darfur (PPOC). As part of the Government's commitment to civilians after UNAMID's exit, the plan was submitted to the UNSC in 2020. From 3-7 October, El Fasher, North Darfur, hosted two roundtable workshops. Community leaders from IDP and nomadic groups, members of CSOs, resistance committees, youth organizations, line ministries, and representatives from UN agencies were among the 121 participants. The seminars offered a chance to educate important parties about the PPOC and to talk about which of its nine thematic pillars would be most useful for implementation in North Darfur. Furthermore, communities and the Government were able to work together on topics that were crucial for general security, social cohesion over the long term, and peaceful coexistence. Before the 25 October coup, a one-day workshop was organized in Ed Daein, East Darfur.

The 2021-2023 National Action Plan (NAP) to Combat Human Trafficking in Sudan was introduced in August. The UN was instrumental in helping the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCT) draft it. The NCCT is also co-chairing the Counter Trafficking and Mixed Migration Working Group in Sudan and led the charge to create a Support Framework Matrix that gathers and keeps track of all significant stakeholders' contributions to the implementation of the NAP.

The office finalized its Mixed Movements Strategy and created area-based Plans of Action for Khartoum, Gedarf, Kassala, and Northern State that are in line with the NAP and give top priority to a variety of initiatives that promote system growth, capacity-building, and victim protection.

Greater cross-border collaboration with Egypt and Libya was pursued, particularly regarding the expulsion of persons of color and migrants and interventions in favor of them. Four virtual meetings with the majority of the pertinent counterparts were held, and collaborative campaigning was started to encourage the Government of Sudan to create a database that collects and tracks information on those who are detained and trafficking victims.

In order to maximize the synergies between the various actors, a few task forces were established under the auspices of the Counter Trafficking and Mixed Migration Working Group (e.g., a task force on finalization, launch and State-level dissemination of NAP; a task force on detention; one on assistance to Safe House management; one on support to the Government in establishing a national database, etc.).

In order to guarantee that children's rights are mainstreamed, and that laws and policies are in compliance with international agreements, UN Sudan resumed its work in 2021 to support the Government with legislation, policy evaluations, and implementation. The UN conducted various awareness-raising campaigns with law enforcement officials and closely monitored reported cases in order to facilitate the implementation of amended laws in 2020, which include the criminalization of FGM and alternatives to detention for mothers with children under the age of five, pregnant women and lactating women. The revised Child Act 2021, which brought several beneficial reforms, received technical support from the UN. The enhancements included the definition of "children on the move," a chapter on gender-based violence, and protection of children from violence. The Child Act 2021 was in its final draft stage, but it was not introduced at the cabinet level because of the political climate in the nation.

In addition, the UN encouraged the creation of SOPs for police, prosecutors and judges to work together when handling cases of migrant smuggling and human trafficking. Assuring a human rights-based, gender-sensitive and child-focused approach, the SOPs' main goal is to improve collaboration in the investigation and prosecution of those crimes. This is done in the knowledge that greater protection results in more successful criminal procedures, and vice versa. The UN launched a consultation to create national legislation to fight migrant smuggling in conjunction with the Judicial and Legal Science Institute (JLSI). In response to Sudan's ratification of the Smuggling of Migrants (SOM) Protocol, the workshop aimed to facilitate domestication of the SOM Protocol into national legislation and to assure compliance with the international legal order and protocol. The UN created a data gathering platform that will be implemented in seven states in collaboration with the Attorney General Office in response to the AG's request to strengthen the capabilities of newly established specialized prosecution offices on trafficking in persons TIP in impacted areas.

In coordination with Sudanese authorities, the UN organized workshops with the goals of supporting the process of creating and implementing a national strategy for preventing and combating corruption in Sudan; creating the necessary laws and regulations to prevent administrative corruption; guaranteeing the protection of public funds and proper management of public procurement; and enhancing the ability of law enforcement authorities to carry out financial investigations in corruption.

The UN also backed the adoption of digital data management and land information collecting, which aimed to replace the paper-based approach for improved documentation record storage. Following technical support for the further roll-out of the course, training was offered for trainers on the usage of digital equipment and data administration. Additionally, the UN gave the State Ministry of Infrastructure and Urban Development offices in the five Darfur states survey equipment, mapping tools, solar panels, and IT equipment (in Tawila locality in North Darfur, Geraida locality in South Darfur and Asalaya locality in East Darfur).

Additionally, with the assistance of 596 community members, the UN sponsored the sketch mapping for 20 potential return villages dispersed throughout five Darfur States. There were 15 core technical team members from the state and municipal administrations, and 40 percent of them were women. These team members all received comprehensive training and technical support. Furthermore, the UN helped with the village re-planning

and provided technical professionals from the five Darfur States with training (workshops and on-the-job training). The UN also conducted consultation meetings with communities, including IDPs and other land stakeholders, peace centers, pertinent governmental institutions, and UN agencies in five Darfur States. These meetings included rapid gender-response assessments of the typologies of land disputes and stakeholders. As a result of the aforementioned actions, a participatory model of village planning was implemented, changing the role of planning officers at the state and local levels from decision-makers on behalf of communities to facilitators who assist communities in making planning decisions.

The UN worked closely with the relevant authorities to increase Sudan's border management capability through technical support, such as technical trainings, the promotion of cross-border talks and equipment support. This was done as part of institutional capacity provision activities. The UN works to educate frontline border officers on various aspects of border management, offers trainings on document inspection and fraud detection, identifies cases of human trafficking and migrant smuggling, introduces the idea of humanitarian border management, and helps countries build better capacities to respond quickly and effectively to migration crises. Particularly, The UN improved the skills of 146,220 Passport and Civil Registration Corporation and law enforcement personnel on the many aspects of border management, including document inspection and fraud detection, immigration and border management, human trafficking and people smuggling. This was accomplished through 710 training sessions, including one session for training of trainers.

**Output 4.3 National and state institutions have strengthened capacities in strategic operations for evidence-based planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring, and accountability for reduction of inequalities.**

The UN continued embarking on high-level advocacy and the provision of technical support to preparatory activities for conducting Sudan's sixth Population and Housing Census in 2023. The Census Project Document has been finalized with an updated census budget, census organigram, and a detailed timeline for the key processes and milestones available. Based on these efforts, the Census High Council, chaired by the PM in August 2021, adopted the new census budget and roadmap. The pilot census was rescheduled to take place in February 2022, the enumeration (data collection) in February 2023, the release of preliminary results in July 2023, and the results

in November 2023. The timeline is currently being reviewed to accommodate the impacts of the events following the events of 25 October 2021.

The UN advocated for mobilizing resources from the government and donors in support of the Population and Housing Census 2023. This resulted in a commitment from the Transitional Government to cover 53 percent of the budget from domestic resources; the rest (47 percent) is expected from the donor community. From the \$9.3 million budget requirements for 2021, the government of Sudan paid to Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) \$4.4 million, and the rest was expected in the last quarter of 2021, due to government reshuffling after 25 October 2021.

Furthermore, the UN census technical team developed, shared and discussed concept notes, as well as a basis for mobilizing resources from the World Bank, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Norwegian Embassy, and the Canadian Embassy in Khartoum, among others. The UN had received promising feedback, which was influenced by events that occurred after 25 October. In support of launching census activities at field level, the UN supported the CBS by coordinating and leading field missions to nine states. During these state visits, census preparatory activities were officially launched, census machinery and structures at state levels were sensitized, and relevant stakeholders were enlightened on the importance of the census.

To ensure UN high-level engagement in data and its importance for development planning and collaboration, the UN supported and facilitated the visit of the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) to Sudan, Head of the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) to discuss with the Central Bureau of Statistics Director General and his crew the importance of data and statistics in this unique period of Sudan. The meeting highlighted the preparations to conduct the first ever digital census, opportunities and the challenges faced so far. The SRSG assured of his utmost support for the census for development purposes in Sudan.

In 2021, and in close collaboration with the National Population Council (NPC), the UN continued its technical and financial support to the Transitional Government of Sudan, including human resources support, to peruse its mandate as the government advisory body on population and development issues. The UN sensitized and oriented policymakers on Sudan's National Commitments of

ICPD@25 made during the Nairobi Summit. An Action Plan for Sudan's National Commitments to ICPD@25 was developed, and Government personnel, private sector entities, and civil society organizations were educated and informed about ICPD and Sudan's commitments to the outcomes of the Nairobi Summit 2019.

The UN-supported Policy Dialogue Forums, held in collaboration with the National Population Council, aimed to orient actors on population issues, with over 140 policymakers representing line ministries, the private sector, CSOs, the media, and academia, as well as key figures from the Forces of Freedom and Change and political parties active in Sudan during this transitional period. The forum highlighted the importance of population factors in planning, with special emphasis on migration and mixed migration issues as youth-selective issues.

In close collaboration with the National Population Centre, the UN supported the finalization of an Action Plan for the Demographic Dividend Roadmap, which was drafted earlier. Representatives from relevant line ministries and other government institutions, CSOs, media, and academia discussed the Plan of Action, which will be presented to high-level policymakers to help inform the formulation of policies and strategies, including the integration of youth issues and the demographic dividend in development policies.

The National Population Council intends to organize its Sixth Population and Development Conference in 2023. The UN supported the development of the conference concept paper and terms of references for papers' presenters and panellists, and the formation of technical committee meetings.

76 new GBV incidences from Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba were handled by the UN. The right services (e.g., psychosocial support, medical assistance, legal aid, and safety and security services) were provided to all survivors (72 women and 4 males). 139 sessions were held, reaching 4,171 people (2,767 women and 1,404 men) and achieving community knowledge and active engagement on GBV prevention. 28 community volunteers were also enlisted and given training to aid in the prevention and response to GBV. In order to raise awareness, 500 IEC materials were distributed, and six GBV groups with 70 members—33 men and 37 women—were involved in referrals and prevention activities. By year's end, there were two semi-permanent women's facilities in operation. These facilities provide women a secure setting in which to gather and discuss the

problems that concern them. By the conclusion of the year, 3,224 women and girls had also participated in psychosocial and life skills activities, including basket weaving.

Interagency GBV SOPs were created and approved by the GBV working group in order to enhance and standardize the GBV response. These were essential in making sure that case management, referrals, and reporting were done properly. Additionally, referral paths were created. In Tunaydbah and Um Rakuba as well as in Hamdayet and Village 8 transit centre, a thorough GBV rapid assessment was conducted with the participation of all GBV partners. Safety audits for all four locations were also part of the assessments. CBPNs, paralegals, IPs, and other stakeholders have received training on PSEA, reporting, referral pathways, and prevention and response in Darfur. This improved the ability to identify GBV events and refer them to support providers.

In order to reach both South Sudanese Refugees and non-South Sudanese refugees as well as host communities, GBV awareness programmes on hazardous habits, youth leadership, home visits, and campaigns during International Women's Day and World Refugee Day were conducted. When appropriate service providers for legal, medical, immunoglobulin A (IGA), and mental health psychosocial support services are available, Community Base Protection Networks (CBPNs) have sent cases to them using established referral procedures. Meetings of the GBV working group have been created, and survivors have received support in the areas of safety, legal, medical assistance, and psychosocial support when applicable. GBV has been mainstreamed and male engagement has been made possible. GBV focal points have been identified to carry out sensitization, support community education efforts, and revitalize GBV networks.

A total of 900 people of concern and members of the host community were the targets of three awareness-raising efforts on GBV, as well as two focus groups with 30 Protection of Civilians in urban settings. The 16 Days of Activism Against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence provided an additional chance to educate students about GBV and to assist a local protection network whose members have been crucial in spreading knowledge about GBV. In addition, the UN Community Outreach Volunteers received training on GBV, including information on services for survivors, enabling them to tell the community about GBV and properly direct survivors to assistance. Rape and domestic violence are the most

frequently reported types of GBV and respond to incidences of GBV.

In 2021, the UN was made aware of 63 cases of sexual and gender-based violence, 10 of which involved men. Many of the instances involved GBV in contexts of trafficking. The survivors of GBV had access to healthcare, psychosocial support and legal assistance. Some of the situations were deemed to be qualified for financial aid.

In 2021, 10 National Gender Advisors were attached to seven ministries (MOH, MOL, MOSD, MOFG, MOFEP, CBS, MOJ). The outcome of their plans concentrated on bolstering gender coordination bodies; mainstreaming gender issues into the policies, strategies, and laws of the target government institutions; improving the capacities of government employees; and supporting the production of gender-sensitive data and information. To guarantee a high level of coordination, a cooperative framework for the work of the government institutions with gender advisors and other key bodies (including Khartoum University and the Ministry of Media) was devised. As a result of the study analysis of Sudanese laws from a gender perspective, certain results were obtained, including engendering the budget circular, progress toward ratification of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the African protocols, and formulation of MOJ strategic priorities to examine laws from a gender viewpoint.

The joint framework of gender is identified key intervention areas, including integrating gender considerations into government policies, strategies, and plans; enhancing the structure for gender coordination within government agencies; and producing gender data, information and knowledge products.



*The consultations organized by UNITAMS for Women @UNITAMS 2021*

"The consultations organized by UNITAMS were a genuine process in terms of listening to a broad range of Sudanese, men, and women, to hear their perspectives on a way out of the crisis and the future of the country. I, among other women who participated in the consultations, suggested specific measures to ensure women's meaningful participation in formal political processes and was invited for follow up meetings by UNITAMS to discuss our ideas further. The women's groups invited to participate were very diverse, including geographically, which brought richness in reflecting women's issues and priorities. Participating in the consultations allowed me to share my views not only on women's challenges, priorities, and aspirations, but also to discuss political topics including the status of the Juba Peace Agreement, the Constitutional Document, and other related points. It availed a platform for us as women to talk politics whereas previously we have been denied this engagement in formal political processes."



*a women's rights activist & prominent lawyer & civil society @UNITAMS 2021*

Mrs. Jawahir Ibrahim who is a women's rights activist and member of Blue Nile Women Network for Peace and Development and to Mrs. Samia Alhashmi who is a prominent lawyer & civil society/ women rights activist.

### **Main challenges to implementation**

- The political instability that hit the country as a direct result of the military takeover and its effects on the suspension of several projects and activities have been a challenge.
- The economic deterioration has had a direct impact on project implementation.
- The narrowing of freedoms and liberties is causing the cancellation of numerous project activities.

- 
- The introduction of a new law which incriminates FGM has been a landmark shift in the legislative spectrum in the country and was accompanied by huge media coverage that in turn helped in raising the legal awareness of the public. Moreover, the prohibition of torture in accordance with international human rights law as well as the nation-wide debate on the transitional justice commission's proposed act has attracted and focused the interest of the public on principles of human rights and transitional justice and how citizens might redress the state's rendered abuses of human rights. Furthermore, the introduction of legislation aimed at dismantling the former regime institutions and the formation of a committee tasked with the execution of the said legislation. The publicly broadcast sessions and activities of the committee led to an increasing awareness of the public of laws and policies being abused by the former regime's security apparatus.
  - The collapse of the former autocratic regime has sparked a new spirit of independence in the judiciary in Sudan, which has been shown in what are perceived to be fair rulings and verdicts in many cases of public interest. This perception contributed to the public's growing confidence and trust in the judiciary and institutions of the rule of law.
  - It has been difficult to identify and address specific instances in need of legal support for their civil/birth registration and nationality procedures because of the UN's legal aid partner's weak capacities and the frequent turnover of its lawyers.
  - Internal staff turnover has decreased the UN's ability to effectively advocate for national legal and policy reform and Sudan's entry into the two international statelessness conventions in accordance with its National Action Plan with the Civil Registry, Ministry of Justice, UNICEF, and other pertinent stakeholders.
  - A few gaps still exist. Inadequate access to essential services and to livelihood opportunities exacerbated GBV risks and vulnerabilities everywhere. Protection employees in Babikri, Village 8, and Hamdayet were excessively overworked due to the lack of a GBV partner supporting prevention and response actions. Access to justice was also severely restricted by factors like the distance to service locations, the scarcity of female police officers, the absence of legal knowledge, and language hurdles. The likelihood of using harmful coping techniques within the camps increased because all of this.
  - The military coup had an immediate impact on the nation's political situation, which resulted in the suspension of a number of initiatives and activities.
  - The state of the economy has affected the execution of projects.





IOM Sudan @2021



## Community Stabilization

**Output 5.1: Targeted communities' benefit from enhanced socioeconomic peace dividends and durable solutions**

In 2021, the UN invested in smooth transitions, peacebuilding, community stabilization and long-term solutions by addressing the socioeconomic and political drivers of conflict and displacement in order to reduce tensions, prevent forced displacement and support vulnerable migrants such as pastoralists to

have (sedentary lifestyle style), IDPs, and returnee communities, as well as their local/hosting communities. Political, ethnic, and resource-based tensions (water, basic services, livelihoods, and lands related with environmental concerns) are increasingly complex sources of conflict and displacement in Sudan. As a result, multi-sectoral integrated interventions were implemented with a focus on improving access to essential services such as WASH,

as well as promoting economic recovery and development through livelihood initiatives.

A community workshop was held in each of the target regions to identify and prioritize the most critical basic services in order to promote long-term solutions and resilience. Interventions included construction/rehabilitation of water facilities (e.g., mini water yard with solar energy installation or the extension of water networks); livelihood interventions with a strong focus on agricultural and livestock supports (e.g., the establishment of low-cost, small-scale vegetable farming with drip irrigation systems and kits made from local materials); the establishment of chicken farms; the provision of goats with sustainable livestock management techniques, as well as group-based income-generating activities (e.g., capacity training on the use of soil stabilized block machines, housing construction, welding, mechanics, and food processing training). With a total of 51 activities delivered as a method to support permanent solutions, peacebuilding, and community stabilization, these interventions helped to strengthen community stabilization and long-term solutions, benefiting at least 182,002 people.

Several interventions were implemented in Nyala as part of the EU-UN Joint Initiative project for migrant protection and reintegration, including Community Vocational Training Projects, which provided 200 returnees, host community members and youth (140 male, 60 female) with various knowledge and skills through six training courses. Following the training, youth were given tool kits and encouraged to start businesses that assist their communities while generating cash to help them survive and positively impact their lives. This programme alone addressed 10 communities (a total of 50,000 people) who benefited directly and indirectly from the services. The programme improved social cohesiveness and created new connections and links between migrants, returnees and host communities.

The rehabilitation of the Multipurpose Centre in Dar El Salam in Khartoum's Umbadah neighbourhood additionally created 17 jobs for community residents. The Community Centre serves a total of 10,000 people in Dar El Salam Block 5 and the surrounding blocks. The returnees' social reintegration was aided by community-based mental health and psychosocial support initiatives in El Fasher and Nyala, which lowered stigma in their communities. These activities

were significant to the returnees because they helped them to stabilize and encouraged others to return and settle in their home of origin.

In 2021, 10,000 cotton masks were supplied in Khartoum, Nyala, and El Fasher as part of the COVID-19 response, as well as 20 ceiling fans in the Dar EL salam Basic School for Girls in Umbaddah for better ventilation. The Joint Initiative registered 767 returnees in the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF), which provided excellent social protection in terms of greater access to the health system and one year of free coverage.

40 Conflict Resolution Committees (CRCs) were trained by the UN. They are composed according to the state's customary dispute resolution procedures, and, in some regions, farmers and pastoralists are included. The Conflict Resolution Committees (CRC) mediated disputes between pastoralists and nomads and fostered communication between the two groups, allowing for open discussions that, over time, will foster trust and progress towards peaceful coexistence. They also discussed farm demolition issues and reduced the likelihood of tensions brought on by farm destruction and land disputes.

Grinder equipment and animal immunization in Gereida helped the nomadic community and IDPs form stronger social bonds. Through attempts at reconciliation that led to the payment of compensation, CRCs in central Darfur's Nerie region were successful in settling eight conflicts involving the damage of farmers' crops by nomads' cattle (i.e., livestock was provided to the owners of the destroyed farms).

In Tawilla locality, North Darfur, and Eid EL Fursan locality, South Darfur, communities and local authorities assessed the infrastructures and basic services that should be provided to communities first. The UN supported the implementation of digital data collection and management of land information in five Darfur states, including the provision of equipment to the offices of the State Ministry of Infrastructure and Urban Development, as well as the training of trainers for the use of digital equipment (Tawila locality in North Darfur, Geraida locality in South Darfur, Asalaya locality in East Darfur). Additionally, the organization helped with the mapping and community planning projects in five Darfur States.

The UN has assisted populations affected by conflict to guaranteeing their access to clean water and encouraging the regularity of water surveillance systems at camps and temporary medical facilities in particular. Additionally, efforts to monitor water quality are being conducted in six states (Blue Nile, White Nile, Gedarif, Kassala, Red Sea and West Darfur), all of which are hosting refugees or are experiencing internal strife. To ensure the adoption of appropriate WASH practices, health care facilities in the states have received support with environmental cleaning and medical waste management initiatives.

Sudanese women played a pivotal role in the December revolution. Women demanded that both the Constitutional Document and the Juba Peace Agreement recognize and enshrine clear stipulations to ensure and enhance women's meaningful participation at all levels of power and decision-making positions. This included the application of a minimum 40% quota of women in all transitional bodies. However, these guarantees proved insufficient, and the transitional government and its institutions failed fulfil these commitments, demands including on representation of women in the government. Following 25 October, women were quick to mobilize and return to the streets and to demand that their revolutionary gains be safeguarded. It is notable that a significant number of participants independently raised the imperative of preserving women's gains when discussing other subjects of the consultations. At the same time, UNITAMS sought specific views regarding the measures needed to ensure women's effective representation and the advancement of their rights in the transition.

### **Outcome of consultation**

There was overwhelming recognition of the fundamental link between women's freedoms, rights, and participation, and a democratic Sudan. There was also a clear acknowledgment of the need to preserve and promote the effective representation and participation of women, acknowledging the low achievement of the minimum 40% during the transitional period. Many advocated for retaining the minimum 40% quota at all levels within all decision-making bodies and institutions, while some demanded an increase to a minimum 50-70%. There were, however, voices questioning the validity and viability of such targets.

### **Output 5.2: Conflict resolution mechanisms, initiatives and networks are strengthened at the community and state levels.**

In 2021, the UN supported participatory land use planning and mapping and demarcation of livestock grazing routes to reduce conflict and promote peaceful coexistence between farmers and herders in Central Darfur State. The key outcomes of the assistance provided have been a significant reduction in conflicts between farmers and herders over access to natural resources, as well as the promotion of peaceful coexistence among different land users and ethnicities in the Central Darfur localities of Zalinge and Nertiti. In particular, conflict reduction between farmers and herders occurred along the livestock migratory route from Fatna Karal to Abata in Zalinge locality as a result of the GPS mapping and demarcation of the hotspot areas along that route and the positive role played by the village peace building committees in spreading the culture of peaceful coexistence.

Furthermore, as a result of awareness-raising of the impact of climate change and extreme climatic shocks on access to natural resources and agriculture and livestock-based livelihoods, farmers and herders are now convinced that their maladaptive practices (e.g., expansion of shifting cultivation into pasturelands, blockage of livestock migratory routes, and intrusion of in 2003.

Through this support, nine Village Peace Building Committees (PBCs) were established in Zalingei, including 93 members (66 men and 27 women). The members were very active in acting as community peace ambassadors, spreading the message of peaceful coexistence among the different tribal ethnicities and land users in the nine villages. These PBCs acted as crop protection committees and community monitoring mechanisms for the livestock corridor. They were able to solve many problems related to access to livestock routes and natural resources, leading to tangible reductions in the frictions between farmers and herders in the Zalingei locality. However, the same community peace committees failed to resolve some cases, such as the occupation of agricultural lands. In Fatna Karal, some livestock herders (pastoralists) who used to live inside the animal migratory route refused to move outside the area. The PBC and Omda managed to contact the local authorities to provide them with alternative land



in another area, so the herders agreed to move outside the migratory route to the new area. The village peace committee in Aurukum resolved two cases related to the joint use of water resources by farmers and herders and the prevention of cultivation inside the migratory route. More than 10 cases of illegal fencing of pasturelands were resolved by the peace building committees in Solai and Rijil Halata. On the other hand, the peacebuilding committees in Fatna Karal and Aurukum referred three cases of agricultural land occupation by pastoralists to the courts. Sustaining the work of the grassroots peacebuilding committees is a big challenge. The UN held community meetings and consultations with community leaders and other relevant local stakeholders in the intervention's target areas to determine priority interventions by gathering contextual information about the security situation and identifying current gaps and needs in livelihood activities and basic services with the community. At least 20 community management committees (e.g., water management committees, community health management committees, and agricultural and business management committees) were re-activated/created.

The UN conducted capacity-building activities to help the above-mentioned key stakeholders establish community-level protection platforms and conflict-prevention mechanisms to deal with displacement-related conflicts, root causes of displacement, and communal conflicts, as well as manage security and mitigate protection risks and threats, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized groups like women, children, returnees, and IDPs. The capacity-building activities included training for community members on organizing and delivering community-led health and WASH services and assisting key Government stakeholders such as the State Ministry of Health, the Water Corporation, the Ministry of Agriculture, and South Kordofan State Ministry of Social Welfare with a particular focus on increasing their ownership and management skills for community assets (e.g., local PHCs or water facilities).

The Juba Peace Agreement and the ongoing peace process opened certain regions that had been isolated from the rest of the country and controlled by non-state armed groups since 2011. Nonetheless, access to these regions was frequently hampered by the presence of mines and explosive remnants of war (ERWs). Establishing vital humanitarian corridors

through survey and clearing, as well as ensuring the security of camps and settlements, allowed for the safe return of refugees and IDPs and the delivery of life-saving aid to these people. The UN completed three roads in South Kordofan and cleared 2.1 million square meters of land of explosive dangers in Darfur, South Kordofan, and the Blue Nile (152.5 kilometres). The South Kordofan operation team evaluated the 100km route from Kauda to Abri, which will provide secure access to humanitarian aid in Kauda for the first time, as well as the routes from Dalami to Sarrafaia and Sarrafaia to Katdbir (52.5 km). The majority of the area that was freed from the dangers of explosives was put to useful use, such as farming, grazing, accessing water sources and re-establishing the conditions necessary for sustainable growth. 221 of the 257 hazardous locations noted in 2020 have been cleared, leaving 351 with a total contaminated area of 32,914,595m<sup>2</sup>.

Though they were unable to proceed further because of the existing political climate, the UN backed the creation of the National Urban Policy and the process of producing the National Housing Policy. For instances requiring prompt responses after arrest and detention of persons of interest in and around Khartoum, the Mixed Migration team maintained good collaboration with Field Section Khartoum (FSK). This required coordinated referral and case management by UN and other working group members (registration, food, NFI, medical assistance, psychosocial counselling, etc.).

To alert people about victims of trafficking in prison and to manage referrals, the UN formed a task force in Khartoum and a WhatsApp group made up of IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF and Danish Refugee Council (DRC). In order to facilitate communication between police and Police Office Centre (POC) and to provide psychosocial support, especially to women and children

**Output 5.3: Government has increased capacities to develop national frameworks, policies, strategies, and action plans on issues supporting peacebuilding and durable solutions.**

The EU-UN Joint Initiative helped its partners in the Government, commercial sector and civil society organizations gain a better knowledge of the return and reintegration framework.

Through the reintegration handbook training, the project participatory monitoring meeting (PPMM) and the learning workshop, several activities were implemented to help partners reach consensus and strengthen perceptions on reintegration and the roles and responsibilities of each partner, as well as to enhance capacity. Staff from the Secretariat of Sudanese Working Abroad (SSWA) and the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) were trained in psychosocial support first aid to deal with returnees who lacked the necessary knowledge and abilities.

The UN undertook a thorough assessment of victim aid in 2021 to better understand the needs of victims of explosive ordnances and to identify any gaps in service delivery. To spread awareness and promote a coordinated and integrated approach to victim support, the assessment was sent to a large group of stakeholders. After gathering the lessons learned, the National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) and the UN began collaborating on Sudan's new victim support strategy in 2021. In order to create a more viable and long-lasting solution, the new strategy seeks to improve the system for victims and persons with disabilities who are referred, to reach more people and to join forces with other UN agencies and existing institutions. The document is being debated and is awaiting approval.

## Main challenges to implementation

- Because of access restrictions caused by tribal conflicts, it was difficult to coordinate mine action efforts with local, state, and federal officials.
- Some of the obstacles to sustained returns include insecurity, a lack of long-term solutions to land-related problems and political instability. For instance, intercommunal violence in July 2021 forced the whole community of Tawilla to flee. This had an impact on students who had recently started attending a new school. Projects like the Dobo school in the North and the three Community Stabilization Project CSPs in Central Darfur (the execution of which was delayed until 2022) were also hampered by insecurity. The projects' functionality was compromised by the remoteness and lack of national services that discourage permanent employment of civil personnel. It was clear that CRCs had been relocated as a result of intercommunal violence and that women and young people had been actively involved.
- The absence of a national system for identifying victims of trafficking. Low ability of national partners,

such as NCCT, to manage and address concerns with migration and counter-trafficking.

- The absence of an efficient information management system for stakeholders involved in human trafficking

## Success story



*Safe environment for all (Maflo, South Kordofan)*

Since 1980s, South Kordofan State has seen more than three decades of civil strife. Despite a temporary peace accord between the states, violence resumed in 2011. The state became one of Sudan's most severely damaged by explosive ordnances as a result of the war. Humanitarian aid is having a difficult time getting to the state's residents because of the presence of explosive ordnances, preventing people from living normal, tranquil lives.

Using UNMAS-funded demining activities, JASMAR National Mine Action Organization undertook the challenge of eliminating the threat from the state. The main goal of the project was to make it possible for local residents, UN agencies and humanitarian workers to move around previously contaminated areas without risk of harm from explosive ordnances. To accomplish this, land release activities (such as non-technical surveys, technical surveys, clearance, disposal of explosive ordnance, and clearance in the state through the use of four Mobile Training Team (MTT) were carried out. On 20 March 20 one of the JASMAR multi-tasking teams was sent to the Talodi locality in South Kordofan to clean up the area between Talodi's capital and the Maflo hamlet, which was extremely contaminated due to previous and

ongoing wars. Despite the contamination, residents continued to use the areas between Talodi and Maflo for their daily activities, such as gathering firewood, grazing livestock and cultivating land—even after leaving Maflo village for Talodi.

Halima, Fatema and Hawa, three IDP women from the Talodi community who work to provide for their families, used to travel to the forested areas between Talodi and Maflo to make charcoal and cultivate Sudanese peanuts. Along with their kids, the women continued their work-related activities to support their families.

"I was so concerned that one of my kids would touch any unusual object that we commonly encounter on this property," Halima says. "Now I feel happy that my children will not get wounded due of these dangerous objects that were dispersed throughout the forest region." Additionally, Maflo's Omda reported that "Maflo displaced villagers are currently returning back from Talodi after understanding that the area is not polluted with explosive ordinances anymore."



# UNITED NATIONS SUDAN



### 3.3 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

The newly formed coordination body of the Sudan Partnership Forum in September 2021 was envisioned to coordinate high-level political and strategic development initiatives through existing and new technical working groups on a range of thematic and sectoral areas. The Sudan Partners Forum have comprised all actors engaged in humanitarian and development peace assistance and will meet to better coordinate humanitarian and development assistance across the nexus, provide strategic guidance and support to the thematic and sectoral groups.

Sudan's total budget for 2021 amounts to over 1.1 trillion Sudanese pounds (about \$3.4 billion), with over 45 percent allocated social protection, education and health.

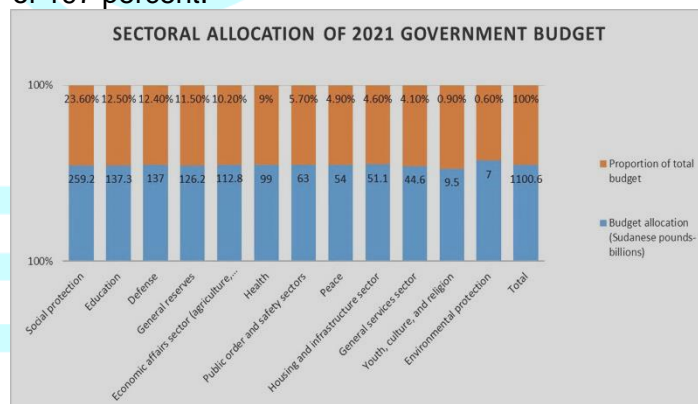
Financing for gender equality cuts across all funding to ensure delivery of SDG targets. At country level, the Ministry of Finance has for the first time included a provision in the budget circular directing ministries to allocate budget for gender when developing their plans. This is an opportunity to invest in capacitating the state to implement the gender provision of the budget circular, while considering that Sudan is still operating with the item budget and not a programmes budget in the midst of suspension of development programming, including gender equality programming.

The International Development Association (IDA) in March 2021, granted Sudan access to nearly \$2 billion for poverty reduction and sustainable economic

recovery. In addition, the IMF Board approved a new 39-month Extended Credit Facility Arrangement for Sudan amounting to almost \$2.5 billion. The three-year financing package aimed to support the implementation of the authorities' reform agenda, between the HIPC Decision and Completion Points. However, all development assistance has been paused.

Debt relief under the HIPC Initiative should significantly reduce Sudan's external debt burden. Assuming full application and creditor participation, Sudan's debt is expected to decline from about \$56 billion under current assumptions to \$28 billion at Decision Point in present value terms. At Completion Point, debt is estimated to decline further to around \$6 billion by 2024.

The average annual inflation rate for 2021 came to 359.1 percent, almost double the IMF projected level of 197 percent.



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### 3.4 Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency

The Integrated Operation Management Team (IOMT) has worked continually to offer a One UN approach to support UN operations in Sudan during the challenging political transition.

The UN in Sudan is implementing changes to pursue more cost-efficient and support services, by reducing the duplication of functions and administrative and transactions costs through the consolidation of support services at the country level.

#### Business Operations Strategy (BOS)

In line with the Secretary-General's UN reform targets, Sudan has designed a BOS in support of a more effective programme delivery on the 2030 Agenda. BOS 2.0 was prepared and endorsed by the UNCT in July 2020 and signed off by the UN Resident Coordinator in October 2021.

The BOS supports the collective response of the United Nations system to national development priorities in Sudan as outlined in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2018-2021), now extended until 2022, as the guiding strategic framework in the country.

Implementation of the BOS action plan was delayed due to the impact of COVID-19 and continuous political unrest, culminating in the military take-over in October 2021 which significantly impacted UN operations in the country. IOMT and its IOMT working groups were reconstituted in September 2021, focusing initially on strengthening business continuity measures amongst all UN entities which was achieved. The IOMT expects smooth implementation of BOS 2.0 in 2022.

The BOS 2.0 comprises 28 common services across all common service lines. The potential cost saving is \$4.6 million projected for the BOS period until 2024. All common services, including high-impact common services presented within the BOS Sudan, will be coordinated by IOMT.

#### Local Shared Services Centre (LSSC)/Common Back Office (CBO)

The LSSC/CBO relates to the Common Back Office initiative which is a part of the UN Reform process under the SGs "Efficiency Agenda". It will consolidate common services that make economic sense to be developed and executed jointly and integrate these into a service delivery platform that provides a range of services to UN agencies at the country level.

During the last half of 2021, UN entities in Sudan have completed the data collection phase. In December 2021, the UN DCO/LSSC team conducted initial engagements with the UNCT, UN entities, the IOMT and its sub-groups as part of the first mission to identify services that could be scoped, look at opportunities and challenges, conduct an initial prioritization of CBO service lines, and make an initial definition of functions and skillsets required for each service.



## Evaluations and Lessons Learned

The political situation changing since 25 October 2021, Sudan's transition entered a phase of political crisis that has had profound implications for the country's prospects. While political efforts to solve it continue, an alarming confluence of risks faces Sudan's population and threatens overall stability.

With an average inflation rate of 350 percent and an average price of basic consumables that is over 120 percent more than last year, the economy is in a grave state. The current political instability and the violent conflict are changing the planning assumptions and priorities for nearly 14.3 million people in Sudan.

Sustainable progress will depend to a large extent on Sudanese stakeholders reaching political agreement on the way forward for their country, and the UN will continue to do its utmost to facilitate inclusive dialogue to this end, also noting the implications for regional and international peace and security. The UN agencies' funds and programmes, with their partners, have a critical role to play in helping Sudanese people and communities, especially the most vulnerable, mitigate and manage the risks and threats to human security.

tensions and competition around natural resources (land, water), access to services, and livelihoods.

- UN should provide technical support to measures aimed at preventing violence during the annual migration season and along migratory routes.
- The UN should support programmes for the control and collection of small arms and light weapons.
- Introduce appropriate agricultural techniques to improve soil nutrient conservation for small plot farmers working in the groundnut and sesame value chain in East Darfur and West Kordofan (GAP). GAP training for state-level agricultural workers, promotion of no-till agriculture, improved fertilizer application tactics, and increased farmer use of crop rotation and nitrogen-fixing cropping practices are all on the table.
- Adopting a regional approach in the development of Sudan National WASH Climate Rational is quite useful in facilitating more focus on regional specific issues.
- Farmers of the groundnut and sesame value chains have a higher capability for sustainable agriculture and are more resilient to climatic shocks.
- The repealing of the notorious public order law was received with huge satisfaction among the Sudanese public, particularly women, who have been unfairly targeted by the said law in almost every aspect of their personal lives.

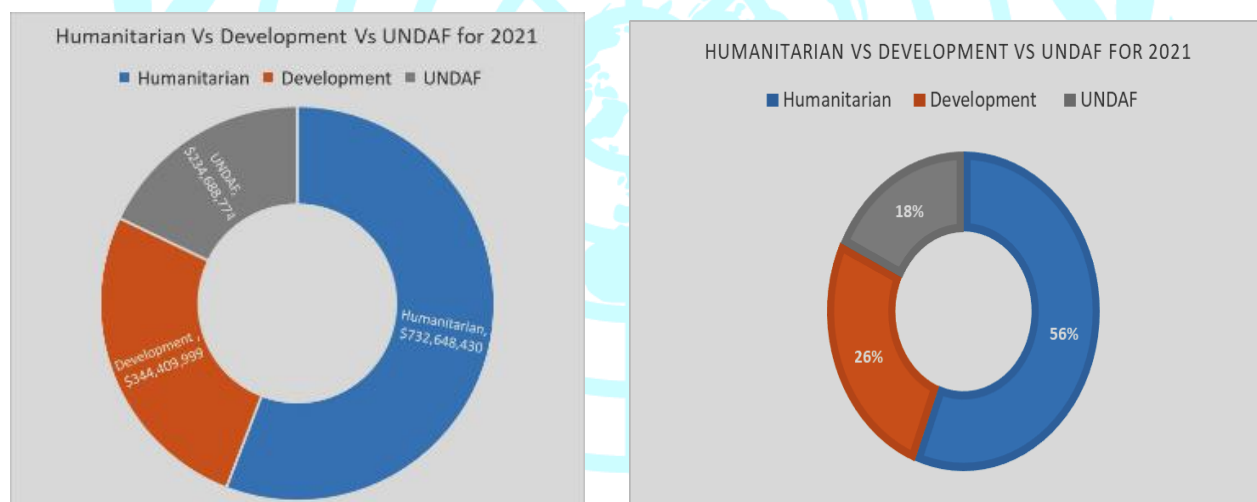
## Lessons Learned

- Engage with authorities on and provide support to the Juba Peace Agreement (JPA) priorities, particularly in the area of transitional security arrangements and the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) of combatants. Technical support for other priority areas of JPA implementation.
- Ensure meaningful participation of women and gender-responsive implementation of the peace agreement, cease fire, and security arrangement.
- Support the conclusion and implementation of local-level peace agreements; encourage dialogue, mediation, and reconciliation efforts aimed at reducing intercommunal conflict, including conflict between farmers and pastoralists.
- Scale up programmes that can address current drivers of conflict and violence, e.g., by easing



## 3.6 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

A total of \$3.4 million was received in development assistance in 2021, which constituted 44 percent of the total aid to Sudan. In comparison to 2020, the amount increased by 12 percent.



By comparison, humanitarian aid in 2021 was about \$7.6 million, a decrease of 9 percent compared to 2020. It is largely driven by a surge in humanitarian assistance in response to the floods, refugees, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

##	2018	2019	2020	2021
Humanitarian	\$612,099,872	\$602,535,565	\$863,721,209	\$732,648,430
Development	\$347,561,660	\$317,872,064	\$238,771,569	\$344,409,999
UNDAF	\$224,177,366	\$201,511,612	\$233,103,253	\$234,688,774
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,183,838,898</b>	<b>\$1,121,919,241</b>	<b>\$1,335,596,031</b>	<b>\$1,311,747,203</b>

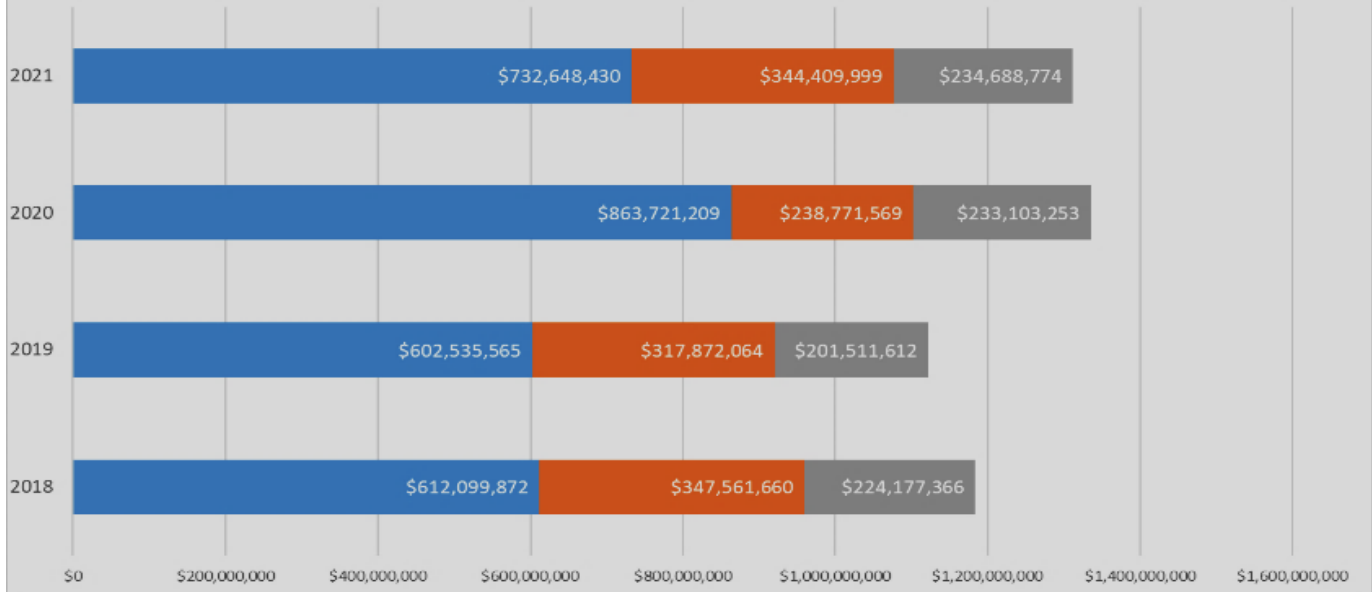
##	2018	2019	2020	2021
Humanitarian	52%	54%	65%	56%
Development	29%	28%	18%	26%
UNDAF	19%	18%	17%	18%

The United Nations Development Assistant Framework for 2021 has a total of \$579,098,773, an increase of 9 percent compared to 2020.

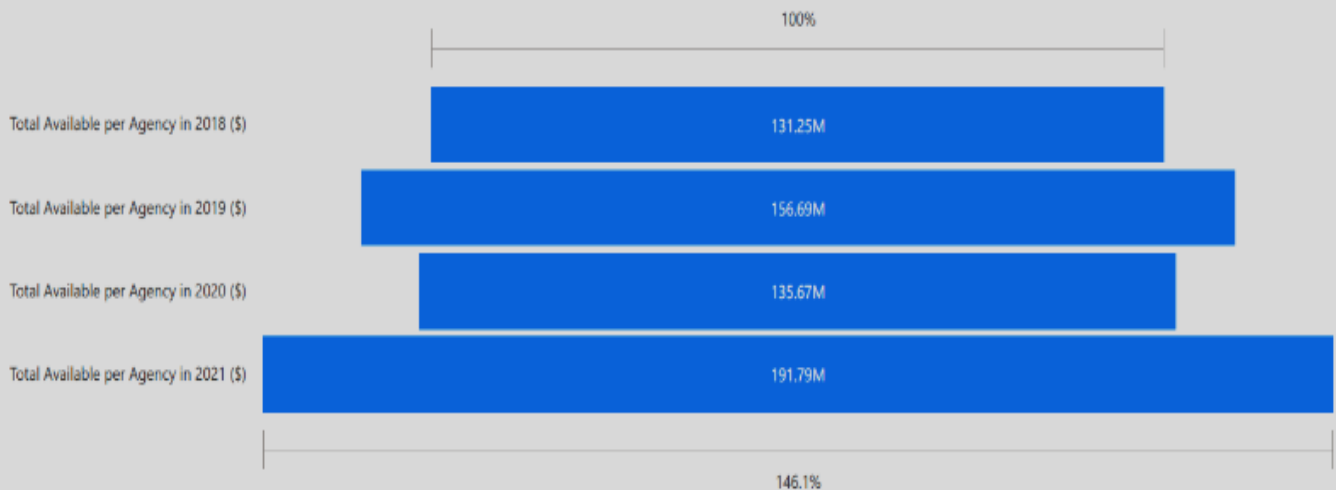


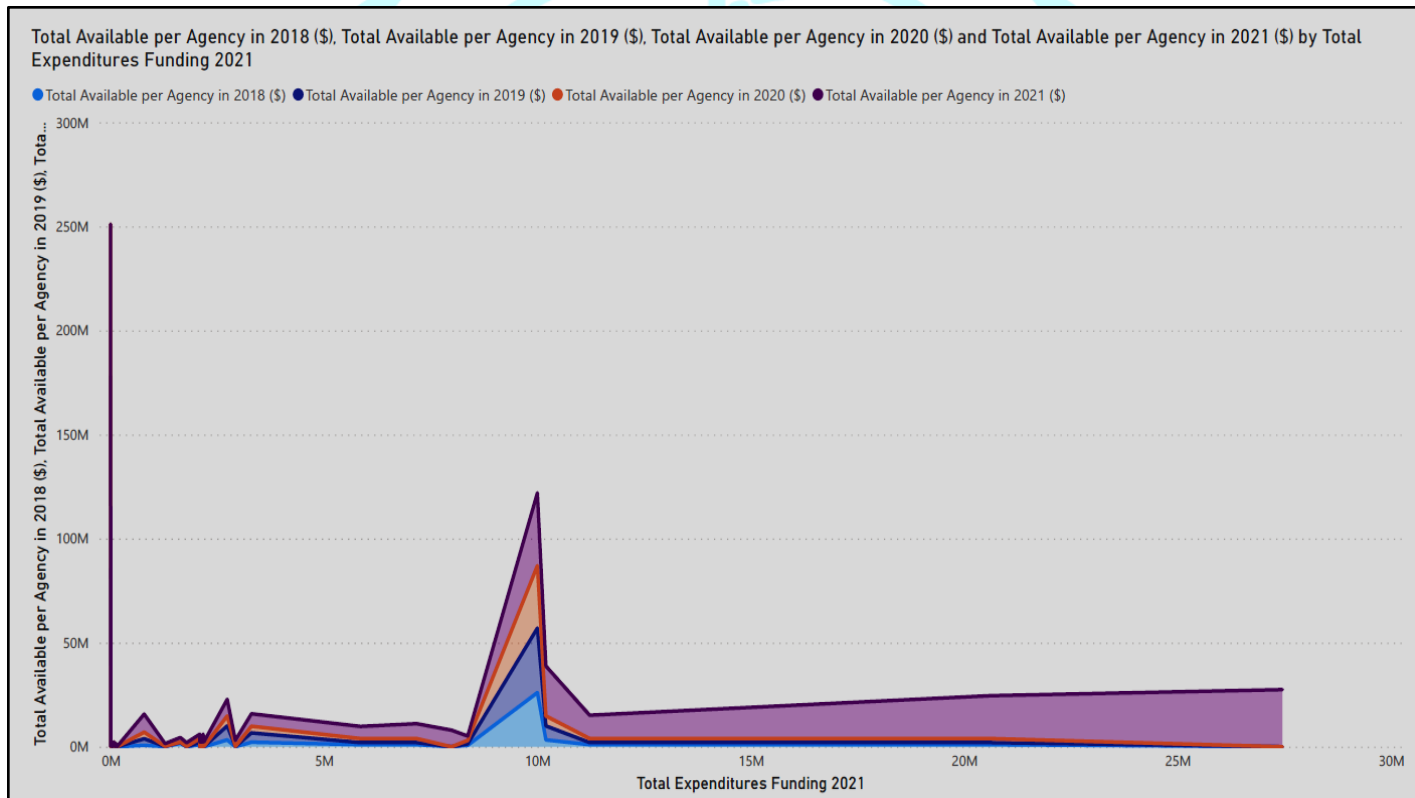
## Humanitarian Vs Development Vs UNDAF for 2018 to 2021

■ Humanitarian ■ Development ■ UNDAF



Total Available per Agency in 2018 (\$), Total Available per Agency in 2019 (\$), Total Available per Agency in 2020 (\$) and Total Available per Agency in 2021 (\$)





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## Chapter 4: UNCT key focus for next year



*Nomadic movement, FAO @2021.*

### UN in Sudan: common approach and priorities

The overall goals of the integrated UN presence in Sudan remain to address humanitarian needs while working towards durable solutions for millions of IDPs and host communities; to advance the protection of civilians, the fulfillment of human rights and progress towards the SDGs; and to support the aspirations of Sudan's people for a democratic transition and sustainable peace. But the environment for progress is much less enabling than in 2021, requiring greater focus on urgent priorities.

UNITAMS continues to implement its political mandate in line with the guidance of the Security Council and has placed political dialogue at the top of its agenda.

The UN integrated presence in Sudan remains committed to providing lifesaving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance throughout Sudan. Projected needs have been outlined in detail in the 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Sudan. Following broad consultations in February, a second phase of dialogue is underway with AU-UN-IGAD support.

At the same time, the UN in Sudan will focus its efforts on critical priorities in three areas that span the humanitarian-development-peace nexus (HPDN): 1) basic services, community stabilization and resilience; 2) protection of civilians, rule of law and human rights; and 3) implementation of ceasefires, peace agreements and conflict prevention.



## ACRONYMS

<b>ACIA</b>	<b>Aid Coordination Architecture</b>
<b>ACU</b>	Aid Coordination Unit
<b>ALP</b>	Alternative Learning Programme
<b>BOS</b>	Business operations strategy
<b>CB</b>	Common premises
<b>CBS</b>	Central Bureau of Statistics
<b>CFR</b>	Case fatality rate
<b>CMAM</b>	Community-based management of acute malnutrition
<b>CMR</b>	Clinical management of rape
<b>CRM</b>	Climate risk management
<b>CSO</b>	Civil society organization
<b>DAMAT</b>	National Disaster Medical Assistance Team
<b>DDR</b>	Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
<b>DSRSG</b>	Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General
<b>EmONC</b>	Emergency obstetric and newborn care
<b>FFS</b>	Farmer Field School
<b>FGM</b>	Female genital mutilation
<b>FMoH</b>	Federal Minister of Health
<b>FSWs</b>	Female sex workers
<b>GBV</b>	Gender-based violence
<b>GDP</b>	Gross domestic product
<b>GoS</b>	Government of Sudan
<b>GRAF</b>	Global Risk Assessment Framework
<b>HCFC</b>	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
<b>HIPC</b>	Highly indebted poor countries
<b>ICC</b>	The International Criminal Court
<b>ICPD</b>	International Conference on Population and Development
<b>IDA</b>	International Development Association
<b>IDPs</b>	Internally displaced persons
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>IOMT</b>	Integrated Operation Management Team
<b>IWRM</b>	Integrated Water Resources Management
<b>JCCs</b>	Justice Confidence Centers
<b>JPA</b>	Juba Peace Agreement
<b>KHC</b>	Kassala Health Citadel
<b>KOICA</b>	Korea International Cooperation Agency
<b>MCCT+</b>	Mother and Child Cash Transfers Plus
<b>MDSR</b>	Maternal death surveillance and response
<b>MEPs</b>	Minimum Energy Performance Standards
<b>MOFEP</b>	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
<b>MOIWR</b>	Federal Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources
<b>MOJ</b>	Ministry of Justice
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of understanding
<b>MSM</b>	Men who have sex with men
<b>MSME</b>	Micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises
<b>NEEAP</b>	National Energy Efficiency Action Plan



<b>NPC</b>	National Population Council
<b>ODF</b>	Open Defecation-Free
<b>OTP</b>	Outpatient therapeutic programme
<b>PAHIV</b>	Perinatally acquired HIV
<b>PBCs</b>	Peacebuilding Committees
<b>PBF</b>	Peacebuilding Fund
<b>PPI</b>	Protection of Personal Injury
<b>PLHIV</b>	People living with HIV
<b>PM</b>	Prime Minister
<b>PSEA</b>	Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse
<b>RCO</b>	Resident Coordinator's Office
<b>RUTF</b>	Therapeutic food
<b>RWS4A</b>	Reimagine Water Security for All
<b>SAID</b>	Sudan Aid Management Information System
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SLF</b>	State liaison functions
<b>SPF</b>	Sudan Partnership Forum
<b>SRH</b>	Sexual and reproductive health
<b>SRSG</b>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
<b>SSMO</b>	Sudanese Standards Metrology Organization
<b>STIs</b>	Sexually transmitted infections
<b>SWLW</b>	Small arms and light weapons
<b>TCD</b>	Transitional Constitutional Document
<b>TG</b>	Transitional Government
<b>TJC</b>	Transitional Justice Commission
<b>UNCT</b>	United Nations Country Team
<b>UNFCCC</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>UNITAMS</b>	United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan
<b>VGGT</b>	Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure
<b>VTEC</b>	Vocational training and education center

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