

# Sudan



**International Medical Corps has worked in Sudan since 2004. We offer healthcare, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), nutrition, services related to violence against women and girls (VAWG), and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs, often integrating them to achieve more effective outcomes.**

We provide these services in 41 health facilities to residents across five states, including Blue Nile, Central Darfur, Khartoum, South Darfur and West Darfur. The ongoing humanitarian crisis in Sudan has claimed tens of thousands of lives, uprooted millions of people, disrupted already fragile healthcare systems and prevented families from returning to their homes. Despite limited access and chronic instability, in 2024, we provided humanitarian assistance to more than 1.4 million people in Sudan.





## Today, Sudan is experiencing significant turmoil, and is the largest humanitarian crisis in the world.

Ongoing conflict and political instability are contributing to widespread displacement and urgent needs across multiple sectors. The fighting has led to a significant number of casualties and has disrupted the lives of millions. It also has exacerbated shortages of food, water, medicine and fuel, leading to skyrocketing prices for essential items. Rape has been employed as a weapon of war, risking women's and girls' lives and compounding fear, stress and loss. Displacement, loss of income and the limited presence of service providers further exacerbate the risk of VAWG.

Humanitarian needs in Sudan have reached record highs, with more than half of the population—about 24.8 million people—requiring humanitarian assistance. Millions remain in displacement camps, relying almost entirely on humanitarian aid for essential services, while funding constraints affect the ongoing humanitarian response. The crisis is compounded by annual outbreaks of disease, including dengue fever, cholera and malaria.

## HEALTH

International Medical Corps currently supports 41 health facilities across Sudan, delivering essential health services, strengthening health systems and providing resources to deploy skilled health workers. Essential health services include treatment and prevention of disease, reproductive healthcare, health education, immunization, child healthcare and surveillance, and referrals to emergency- and secondary-level health services. Reproductive health services include prenatal care, safe deliveries attended by skilled birth attendants, postnatal and newborn care, and family planning. Clinical management of rape (CMR) and safe referrals are also offered at the facilities.

In 2024, we provided 910,961 outpatient consultations, including treating thousands of patients for acute respiratory infections, diarrhea and malaria, which continue to be the leading causes of disease in Sudan. We also reached women with comprehensive reproductive health services, including 18,924 women who received antenatal care, 13,966 who delivered babies assisted by skilled healthcare personnel and 12,351 who received postnatal care. We immunized 49,711 children, including 27,720 vaccinated against measles. We engaged local organizations across Sudan, helping them deliver health education for 377,108 people on topics such as immunizations, infectious diseases, infection prevention and control (IPC), birth preparedness and healthy delivery, postnatal care and family planning.



**Sudan is facing an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, with an estimated 18 million people experiencing severe food insecurity—including populations at risk of famine in conflict-affected areas. More than 5 million children and pregnant or lactating women are acutely malnourished, requiring urgent nutritional support, and approximately 70% of the population lacks access to healthcare.**

## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Many communities in Sudan don't have sources of clean water: 17.3 million people lack access to basic drinking water, while about 24 million lack access to proper sanitation facilities. By expanding access to clean water, creating proper waste-disposal systems and providing safe sanitation facilities, we restore and protect healthy living conditions.

In Sudan, we implement WASH activities as part of health and nutrition interventions, including:

- ▶ promoting good hygiene practices through education;
- ▶ creating waste disposal facilities and safe practices;
- ▶ chlorinating, rehabilitating and maintaining water points;
- ▶ constructing and rehabilitating drainage canals and latrines; and
- ▶ improving WASH and IPC in health facilities.

In 2024, we constructed or rehabilitated 55 water points for internally displaced people and host communities, and reached 296,398 people with information about the need for safe hygiene practices and other WASH activities.



## NUTRITION

We provide nutrition services in Sudan for the most vulnerable, including children under 5, pregnant women and nursing mothers. We operate 37 outpatient therapeutic programs (OTPs), 36 target supplementary feeding programs (TSFPs) and six stabilization centers for malnourished children with medical complications. In 2024, of the 352,921 people screened for malnutrition, 82% were children under 5, thousands of whom were malnourished. We treated 17,150 people in OTPs and 28,171 in TSFPs, including 24,717 children under 5 and 3,454 pregnant or nursing mothers. We also provided nutrition awareness sessions for mothers on different topics such as the importance of breastfeeding, dietary diversification using local foods and targeted nutritional support. In 2024, we reached 246,543 people with nutrition education.

## MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

International Medical Corps provides MHPSS services through an integrated approach, ensuring accessibility, non-stigmatization and cultural acceptability. Our MHPSS programs improve mental health, enhance resilience and well-being, build social support networks and empower affected populations. Services include psychological support, mental health case management, psychological first aid (PFA) and group psychosocial support (PSS). Community-based PSS activities include community outreach, mental health awareness and psychoeducation.

Training topics include the WHO's mhGAP Humanitarian Intervention Guide (mhGAP-HIG), Self-Help Plus, PFA, basic concepts of MHPSS, and detection and safe referrals of mental



health cases. We also actively contribute to the establishment and strengthening of MHPSS coordination mechanisms. In 2024, we provided mental health consultations to 6,984 people, and 13,700 people participated in psychosocial support activities.

## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

We help the Sudanese Ministry of Health (MoH) provide healthcare services. Our activities include supporting service delivery, health facility rehabilitation, deploying healthcare workers, and providing medical commodities and emergency preparedness training.



## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

To help meet increasing needs related to escalating violence, International Medical Corps launched its first VAWG prevention and response program in Sudan in 2024. We work with three local partners, two of which are women-led organizations, to provide comprehensive services for survivors of violence and to strengthen support and protection for those at risk of violence. International Medical Corps recognizes the importance of individualized, survivor-centered care, including case management, psychosocial support and safe referral to health services.

The VAWG team works closely with the Health, Nutrition and MHPSS teams to integrate activities, mitigate risks and strengthen referrals to lifesaving services, such as clinical management of rape (CMR). The team also works closely with community leaders and local groups, such as mother-to-mother support groups, to address harmful attitudes and promote support for survivors. In coordination with the sub-cluster working group, we lead efforts to strengthen the response to VAWG, including implementing case management capacity-building initiatives with local organizations across the country.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

Overall, the health system's limited capacity and response mechanisms have severely weakened the ability to provide adequate healthcare. Since arriving in Sudan in 2004, we have trained thousands of local and national medical personnel, including traditional birth attendants and community leaders, in collaboration with the MoH. In 2024, we trained 2,718 people on different topics, including:

- ▶ emergency obstetric and newborn care;
- ▶ rational use of essential drugs;
- ▶ support for CMR and survivors of intimate partner violence;
- ▶ integrated management of common childhood illnesses;



- ▶ nutritional screening, treatment and prevention of malnutrition;
- ▶ infant and young-child feeding practices;
- ▶ outbreak preparedness and response;
- ▶ infection prevention and control; and
- ▶ PFA and mental health case management, including safe referrals.

The expertise of these providers is crucial to integrating healthcare services into the community. Their skills also provide the continuity of care needed to stabilize fragile healthcare systems and foster long-term recovery.



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A pre-eminent first responder since 1984, International Medical Corps delivers emergency medical and related services to those affected by conflict, disaster and disease, no matter where they are, no matter what the conditions. We also train people in their communities, providing them with the skills they need to recover, chart their own path to self-reliance and become effective first responders themselves.

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