



International Medical Corps staff members conduct community screening and awareness sessions in Bori area, Central Darfur.

Sudan's conflict, which began in April 2023, has created one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. According to the United Nations, more than 11.7 million people have been displaced, including 4.2 million who have fled to neighboring countries.

Central Darfur state is experiencing an active outbreak of measles that was officially confirmed by the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) in October 2025 following laboratory verification by the National Public Health Laboratory. Transmission was initially reported in Umdukhun locality in late December and has since expanded, with Golo locality reporting suspected measles cases since January 20. The outbreak is driven by low routine immunization coverage, population displacement, overcrowded living conditions and limited access to preventive health services.

As of January 28, surveillance data indicates 116 suspected measles cases and two measles-related deaths in Umdukhun locality, with nine new suspected cases reported in the last 24 hours. Most cases are among children under 5, particularly those aged 1 to 4 years, with many reported as unvaccinated or partially vaccinated. Overall, 87 patients have recovered, while 27 cases remain under treatment at Umdukhun Hospital. In Golo locality, 75 suspected measles cases and one measles-related death have been reported, with 11 new suspected cases. Most cases are among children under 1; their vaccination status remains unknown.

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps is actively supporting the measles outbreak response in Golo and Umdukhun localities and the surrounding areas, working closely with the SMoH. We are providing clinical management and referrals for suspected measles cases to Golo and Umdukhun hospitals, ensuring timely diagnosis, treatment, referral and follow-up care. We have reached 21 health facilities in Central Darfur through information and awareness sessions.

To strengthen early detection and surveillance, our teams have disseminated standard measles case definitions to health facilities and activated community-based case finding through community health volunteers and Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) focal points. We also are conducting community engagement activities—including daily health

FAST FACTS

- As of January 28, Central Darfur State Ministry of Health reported 6,581 cases of measles, 6,518 discharges and 10 deaths.
- There are 116 suspected cases of measles in Umdukhun locality.

OUR FOOTPRINT

- Since 2004, International Medical Corps has been providing health, nutrition, protection, mental health and psychosocial support, and water, sanitation and hygiene services in Sudan.

OUR RESPONSE

- International Medical Corps has a longstanding operational presence in Central Darfur, delivering lifesaving health services and supporting vaccinations, disease surveillance and outbreak response, working closely with the state Ministry of Health.
- We are supporting the treatment of measles at Golo and Umdukhun hospitals and strengthening surveillance through community-based case finding.
- We support primary and secondary care health services and community-level interventions targeting vulnerable and displaced populations.

education and awareness sessions targeting caregivers and community leaders—to promote early health-seeking behavior and preventive practices.

We are participating in coordination meetings with the SMoH and EPI staff, as well as humanitarian partners, to align response actions and maximize coverage. We are also helping to map affected villages and identify transmission hotspots to guide targeted interventions.

A statewide measles–rubella vaccination campaign is planned for the first week of February, with vaccines due to arrive from Genina, West Darfur. International Medical Corps will support the campaign by providing community mobilization, coordination and operational engagement services in Umdukhun and West Jabel Marah localities. The State MoH will lead the campaign, with support from UNICEF, International Medical Corps and other partners, and will target 810,000 children aged 9 months to 15 years across all localities in Central Darfur state.