

# DRC Sudan Regional Response Plan

May 2023

**DRC** DANISH  
REFUGEE  
COUNCIL



*A family arriving in Renk, South Sudan, after fleeing violence in Sudan.  
Photo : DRC South Sudan/May 2023*



## Context

On 15 April 2023, armed clashes erupted between the Sudanese Army Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in multiple cities across Sudan, including Khartoum, Al Fasher, Merowe, Nyala, Ag Geneina, and El Obeid – among others. **There has been widespread displacement across different states in Sudan due to the ongoing security situation, and cross-border movements into neighbouring countries such as Chad, Central African Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia and South Sudan.** Reportedly inter-communal clashes have increased between Msalit and the Arabs in West Darfur, worsening the security situation. Despite international diplomatic efforts to have a sustained ceasefire between the warring parties, the situation does not show any indications of improving but rather worsening into continued widespread conflict causing significant impact on the humanitarian needs.

**Currently, the humanitarian situation in Sudan continues to deteriorate with reports of food, water, electricity and fuel shortages across the country causing disruption to market systems, limiting access to communication systems and making it increasingly difficult for people to leave conflict-affected areas.** There has been a significant impact on access to health care facilities where clashes continue creating a severe shortage of medicines and vital supplies. This outbreak of violence only adds another layer of complexity to an already challenging humanitarian situation in Sudan, which prior to the crisis had almost an estimated 16 million people needed humanitarian assistance.

The most significant impact of the recent outbreak of the conflict has been the increase in internal displacement and cross-border movements. Overall, there is a consensus amongst monitoring agencies that displacement figures will continue to increase as the fighting continues. Populations in the countries receiving refugees, refugees who are forced to return and third-party nationals are already in dire need of humanitarian assistance and Humanitarian Response Plans considerably underfunded. For people still on the move, the situation remains critical as they have completely exhausted all resources just to get out of Sudan, and now find themselves in most humanitarian extreme circumstances. Based on this complexity, humanitarian agencies must not only provide assistance to those caught in the conflict but also to conflict-affected populations on the move and who have sought out refuge in neighbouring countries.

Since the start of the conflict on April 15, 2023, displacement figures are:



**1,042,114 individuals internally displaced\***



**272,078 Sudanese Refugees and refugees who are forced to return fleeing Sudan\*\***

\*As of 23 May 2023 (IOM)

\*\* As of 23 May 2023 (UNHCR)

## Scenario Planning and Analysis

Some analysts have portrayed the situation as the [nightmare scenario](#), potentially leading to the collapse of Africa's third largest country, where a third of the 45 million inhabitants are already dependent on humanitarian aid. As of 23 May, [1,042,114 people](#) had been internally displaced within Sudan, primarily in White Nile, West Darfur and Northern states. In addition, [272,078 people](#) – including Sudanese, refugees who are forced to return and third-party nationals – had fled across the borders, primarily to Egypt, South Sudan and Chad. This entails that the current total displacement from the conflict is an estimated 1,314,195 people. If the fighting continues, [UNHCR](#) predicts more than 815,000 people may flee Sudan, including 580,000 Sudanese refugees and 235,000 refugees from neighboring countries such as South Sudan, Ethiopia and Chad, who had settled in Sudan to find safety but are now caught up in a conflict in their host country. A [protracted conflict scenario](#) in Sudan raises several concerns for the mixed migration situation in and through the country, in the region, and beyond. Sudan hosts one of the largest refugee populations on the continent, and is a [key country of transit and origin for refugees and migrants](#) traveling towards North Africa and sometimes onward to Europe along the Central Mediterranean Route: refugee and migration stakeholders should be prepared for a complex array of mixed migration consequences and dynamics alongside a humanitarian emergency.

It is also important to bear in mind the many people that will be [trapped](#) in Sudan and unable to flee. As the price of travel has skyrocketed many will not have the resources to leave and others will be caught in situations where the fighting makes it too dangerous. Some may be too vulnerable to leave – elders, people with disabilities, children, etc. This forced immobility will increase as conflict spreads, supply lines break down and food, water and fuel resources become even more scarce. Lastly, much of the current fighting is concentrated in urban centres, which is different from previous conflicts in Sudan. As such, there is a higher concentration of people in close proximity to the fighting which could lead to higher levels of displacement than what has previously been seen. As such the scenarios are likely underestimating the level of displacement arising from the conflict.

### Mixed migration consequences of Sudan's conflict

Based on [analysis conducted by the Mixed Migration Centre in early May](#), the **most likely scenario of protracted conflict in Sudan will have a range of short, medium and longer-term mixed migration consequences for Sudan, the broader region, and beyond**. The majority of Sudanese will be unable to flee due to involuntarily immobility in areas with high concentration of fighting, the level of internal displaced is expected to far

#### DRC Displacement Predictive Modelling

Using Foresight, a DRC machine learning model, to look at potential displacement due to conflict in Sudan, DRC has estimated that the conflict will lead to between 890,000 and 2 million by the end of 2023. The model uses historical data on Sudanese displacement due to conflict events and fatalities and macro-economic drivers of movement to develop different simulations for how displacement might unfold in 2023 depending on the duration and intensity of the conflict. **The prediction does not include secondary displacements, nor forced movement of refugees and migrants of other nationalities. Current displacement figures have already exceeded the lower bound of the predicted displacement.**

outweigh cross-border movements, large-scale refugee movements into neighbouring countries while prospect for the return of existing refugees in the region are even more bleak than before. Finally, the longer the conflict persists, the more likely it is that some Sudanese will move onward from neighbouring countries along mixed migration routes out of the region. The impact on existing refugee and migrant populations in Sudan is also considered- with expectation that these groups will continue to flee to places of safety within and beyond Sudan causing a significant challenge to the humanitarian response. The current conflict could lead to increased transit migration from the Horn of Africa towards North Africa, and potentially onward to Europe. Smuggling, and potentially trafficking and exploitation, are likely to increase.

<b>Consequences of most likely scenario: active conflict and political stalemate</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>Impact on Humanitarian Needs</b>
<b>Sudan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant reduction of humanitarian access to parts of the country with intermittent access in specific locations pending escalation and de-escalation of violence.</li> <li>• Humanitarian needs continue to rise with loss of life due to active conflict, food and water scarcity increasing levels of food insecurity, and high level of displacement into already congested and underserved areas causing more intercommunal violence due to strain on host communities.</li> <li>• Fragmented humanitarian coordination structures within the initial phases of the crisis.</li> <li>• Increase in internal displacement and cross border movement.</li> </ul>
<b>South Sudan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous influx of refugees and refugees who are forced to return causes over-congested transit sites particularly in Renk, Upper Nile leading an increase in protection risks, depletion of resources and increased vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Humanitarian agencies will not be able to facilitate onward movement at the rate that is needed to respond to the growing number of border crossings which will further intensify the situation of congestion or lead to populations seeking riskier forms of movement.</li> <li>• Influx of people will further exacerbate the already high humanitarian needs in the country and cause increased tensions, particularly with recently internally displaced populations who have not had equal levels of access to services.</li> <li>• Worsening economic situation in-country given the high dependence on Sudan supply routes which can both have severe impact on humanitarian operations in the northern states (Upper Nile, Bahr el Ghazal states), and make basic goods and services untenable for populations on the move.</li> </ul>
<b>Chad</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous influx of refugees into spontaneous sites very close to the border with no access to basic services, leading an increase in security and protection risks, depletion of resources and increased vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• High proportion of women, children, and elders amongst refugees.</li> <li>• Assistance in spontaneous sites is weak and dispersed with important coordination issues. The upcoming of rainy season will complicate access to spontaneous sites.</li> </ul>

<b>CAR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 98% of asylum seekers are women and children, with important exposure to protection risks. Pendular movements to Sudan are frequent to access resources or meet with family members.</li> <li>• The area of arrival is insecure, with NSAG. Security incidents impact INGOs.</li> <li>• Actual location of refugees is hard-to-reach. Access could be closed during rainy season. A place is identified to relocate refugees</li> </ul>
<b>Ethiopia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Returning Ethiopian citizens from Sudan face risky onward journeys to reach home, and limited opportunities for reintegration given ongoing conflict and poor economic outlook in much of the country.</li> <li>• Influx of refugees will strain already limited resources for refugees within Ethiopia, particularly in Benishangul-Gumuz and Gambella. Given recent reductions in services and food rations, further congestion can contribute to tensions and unrest.</li> <li>• There are limited options within Ethiopia to host large numbers of new arrivals, given the existing case load of refugees and IDPs, in the face of multiple conflicts and drought, so any new arrivals will require substantial international support.</li> </ul>
<b>Egypt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High numbers of third-country nationals whom are traveling without valid legal documentation causing an increase in family separation and high number of unaccompanied and separated children</li> <li>• People will most likely resort to continue the journey through irregular pathways, exposing them to risks of exploitation.</li> </ul>

### **Cross Border Programming and Regional Coordination**

DRC is facilitating information sharing on displacement figures, available supply chain routes, functionality of market systems, and demographics of conflict-affected populations between its operations and partners in Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Chad and CAR. Field teams are in communication regarding real-time updates in order to respond in a timely and effective manner. Following the outbreak of conflict, DRC has activated a Regional Crisis Group with members from several areas of expertise in order to provide guidance and support to in-country teams to design, develop and implement emergency responses.

DRC sits on strategic coordination structures both in-country and at the regional level with senior management staff. DRC actively participates in HCT, inter-cluster and inter-agency working groups to facilitate conversations regarding the evolvement of the crisis and the impact on humanitarian needs.

## DRC Key Asks and Messaging

1

Parties to the conflict in Sudan and authorities in all countries affected by displacement should ensure that the operating environment is conducive to the delivery of lifesaving humanitarian assistance. This includes unimpeded and uninterrupted access to those affected by the conflict, including the most vulnerable in hard-to-reach areas.

- All parties involved in the Sudan conflict should adhere to IHL, guaranteeing the safety and security of civilians, and civilian assets, services and infrastructure. **Healthcare infrastructure should not be targeted. Key supply and displacement routes within Sudan should be protected.**
- Humanitarian corridors should be created within Sudan to allow for the movement of humanitarian supplies and personnel including cross-border routes from Ethiopia, South Sudan, Chad, CAR and Egypt. Relevant authorities should maintain open international border crossings, and guaranteed safe, unimpeded and uninterrupted access for goods and personnel across borders.
- Streamlined and coherent humanitarian coordination structures and mechanisms must be established and sustained. This includes joint needs assessments, harmonized response packages, and coordinated targeting/prioritisation of population groups.

2

Donors should enable and support the continued response of local actors and NGOs with existing access to and acceptance of affected populations. **Alternative banking/cashflow mechanisms must be explored as formal financial institutions remain closed, and donors should accept less formalised channels so that staff can be paid and activities can be supported.**

- Most new arrivals in South Sudan are South Sudanese refugees who are forced to return. Funding must be made available to existing civil society organisations with experience working with family reunification, and who understand the hardships of returning to a fragile state.
- NGOs and CSOS with better access to affected populations and good community acceptance should be fully funded directly rather than through overly complex UN funding systems.
- Flexible funding that can be applied across borders with the affected populations in order to avoid country/state level siloed funding.

3

Donors and UN should continue to explore options to release additional funding to Sudan and neighbouring countries to respond to new and increasing humanitarian needs.

- Humanitarian Response Plans for South Sudan (28 percent funded), Ethiopia (22 percent funded), Chad (9 percent funded), CAR (25 percent funded), and Sudan (12.5 percent funded) remain dramatically underfunded prior to the outbreak of conflict. **Populations with existing vulnerabilities prior to the conflict should not be neglected and funding should not be diverted to address needs of newly displaced populations.**
- Refugees, those who are forced to return and third-party nationals entering South Sudan are seeking refuge in areas with high food insecurity levels, fragile security environments, and with residing populations whose access to humanitarian services are already limited. **Funding should consider these heightened protection risks.**

# DRC Regional Response Priorities

## Response Statement

### **DRC will alleviate immediate suffering for the most vulnerable and impacted populations by the Sudan conflict**

DRC is currently present and operational in Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Central African Republic, and working with partners in Chad. Whilst the level of operations varies per country and operational context, DRC remains committed to responding to the unfolding crisis in the region not only within Sudan but in the neighbouring countries. Emergency response and continuity of critical lifesaving assistance remains at the core of DRC's commitment to serve conflict-affected populations throughout their journey of displacement. Priorities for DRC responses include:

- People affected by the conflict and displacement must be able to pursue self-reliance.
- People affected by the conflict and displacement must be able to seek safety and claim basic rights.

Through its Protection programming at the centre of majority of responses in these affected countries, DRC will seek to provide a protective environment in which conflict-affected populations will be provided with timely, efficient and effective humanitarian assistance. Where possible, DRC will deliver an integrated multi-sector area-based response package targeting newly displaced, and conflict-affected communities including the hard to reach areas. Within these communities, vulnerable households, such as those from minority communities, women, people with disabilities, people with specific needs, and elderly persons will be prioritised for assistance.

**With a strong operational presence in Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, and CAR in direct delivery of assistance and through partners, DRC has the capacity to absorb new funding for emergency response directly and through partners and scale up emergency response activities with appeals funding.**

## Response to date



### Sudan

DRC continues to operate in Gedaref and South Kordofan with the provision of life-saving assistance for Protection and FSL. With the outbreak of conflict, DRC Sudan has reprogrammed activities to emergency modalities, and has deployed emergency teams to participate in joint needs assessments as well as conduct Rapid Protection Assessments. Ongoing efforts to re-establish operations in Central Darfur, Khartoum and new areas to respond to the increasing needs.



### South Sudan

From the onset of the crisis, DRC has deployed its Mobile Response Teams to Renk and other border entry points. DRC's emergency teams have conducted Rapid Protection Assessments, participated in the coordination of service provision for refugees and refugees who are forced to return at the border, and provided critical lifesaving assistance under Protection, SNFI and CCCM. DRC continues to respond with additional emergency team deployments to congested border entry points, and seeks to support displaced people who continue their journey



### Ethiopia

While DRC does not have operational presence in Metema – the main border entry point for refugees, refugees who are forced to return and third party nationals entering Ethiopia - we continue to carry out Protection analysis in coordination with partners. DRC also conducts border monitoring in Gambella.



### Central African Republic

DRC has mobilised its Emergency Mobile Protection Team, which will be deployed this week to CAR's Vakaga region, the main entry point for asylum seekers from Sudan and Central African refugees who were forced to return. During a 9-day period, DRC's Mobile Protection Team will monitor and evaluate the needs on the ground and explore different options for delivering a protection response in the region.



### Chad

DRC is currently undertaking a scoping mission and is reviewing options for a possible operational response in Chad – immediately as well as long term. Further, via the joint DRC-UNHCR protection monitoring system P21 – the Project P21 – DRC is conducting protection monitoring in Eastern Chad. Also, through the DRC-hosted Sahel Respond Fund, an additional 1Mo£ has been allocated for a consortium, which is present in Chad.



## DRC Regional Response Principles

Regardless of context and operational capacity, DRC will operate and provide humanitarian assistance using the below guiding principles



### Centrality of Protection

DRC will integrate Protection throughout the humanitarian programme cycle by ensuring those at risk are informed by humanitarian decision-making and the response. This also entails identifying who is at risk, how and why, considering specific vulnerabilities of different groups that underlie these protection risks.



### Principled Approach

Regardless of the context, DRC provides humanitarian assistance in accordance with humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence. Additionally, components include accountability and transparency as integral components to any intervention, and ensuring participation of affected populations in the design, implementation and evaluation of humanitarian assistance.



### Needs-based humanitarian assistance

DRC will provide assistance on the basis of independence and technically sound assessments of needs. When possible, DRC will verify the needs of the targeted populations in order to ensure that the adequate level and type of assistance is provided to those most affected.



### Prioritization and targeting of the most vulnerable population groups

Using existing and future DRC protection analysis, humanitarian assistance will be provided to the most vulnerable population groups affected by the conflict. This includes prioritizing responses in hard to reach areas or in areas in which there are demographically complex population groups who have been overlooked to receive lifesaving assistance.



### Coordination and Partnerships

DRC prioritizes partnerships and collaborations with humanitarian actors responding to the same affected populations and coordination remains a key priority. DRC will align all emergency responses to Humanitarian Response Plans and continue to be a lead advocate for assistance to be delivered by actors who are best placed to do so in terms of timeliness and effectiveness.



### Harmonized delivery mechanisms and modalities

DRC will advocate for and implement harmonized sectoral emergency modalities and select mechanisms that are informed by wider collective response.

## DRC Regional Response Framework

DRC's presence in affected countries by the Sudan crisis has already allowed the scale-up and response to providing lifesaving assistance to affected populations. Based on this experience, DRC is coordinating a regional scale up of the emergency response based on the below phased framework. Dependent on the needs, context, and operational capacity, DRC will adapt programming as required.

### First Phase Response (3 months)

In close coordination with local authorities and other humanitarian actors on the ground, DRC will identify specific sites for immediate intervention as well as targeting approaches for identified groups of the affected population. Initial lifesaving activities will be delivered through the partners and directly by DRC and will mainly focus on those who are displaced and have lost their homes, livelihoods and have little in the way of coping mechanisms.

DRC will simultaneously and immediately begin protection activities and presence through conducting rapid multi-sector needs assessments including protection and basic needs questions (covering shelter and NFI, food security, access to sanitation and clean drinking water). In-depth sector-specific technical assessments covering in-depth needs, trends and meeting of standards across sectors and the context in general will follow over the coming month. Targeting will be based on needs identified, coordination with other organizations, presence of DRC and partners, and access and approvals.

### Sectors and Programming

**Protection** – To ensure respect for the dignity of the affected population and sensitivity to their needs, DRC's protection activities will be carried out in the same locations and with the same population groups where life-saving material assistance is being provided by DRC or in coordination with other actors. DRC will identify the most prevalent and severe protection risks to be monitored on a regular basis in respective locations and will initiate protection monitoring as relevant. In parallel, DRC will carry out a service mapping and establish referral pathways to available services (incl. internally in DRC) for persons identified as at increased risk of violence, abuse, exploitation and exclusion. In line with AAP and CHS, DRC will ensure the participation, accountability and engagement of targeted populations through multi-sector assessments, PDMs and monitoring as well as the CFM. The CFM will continue to operate across all activities and the feedback be reviewed and utilised in programming. PSEA and accountability messaging will be shared with target populations and through partners.

**Basic needs (multi-sectoral)** - To ensure basic needs are met and there is a reduction in negative coping mechanisms, DRC will provide multi-sectoral assistance. This will be dependent of the context, and can include delivery of SNFI, emergency WASH, and cash and voucher programming.

**Humanitarian Mine Action (Sudan)**- With the high level of protracted shelling in urban areas and continuous armed conflict, where possible DRC will prioritize HMA risk education in affected areas, deployment of mobile EOD response teams, rapid contamination surveys, and HMA needs assessments.

## Second Phase Response (3 to 6 months)

DRC will continue to deliver assistance according to the evolution of the conflict and needs of the affected populations. All activities will be delivered applying Do No Harm and Age, Gender, Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) and with an integrated approach where possible targeting the same households with multiple services if there is no duplication with other actors.

Responses in this second phase will prioritize modalities and mechanisms that will allow for the transition to early solutions and early recovery of affected-populations where possible. Currently, DRC uses a conflict sensitivity approach to all programming and this will be further emphasized during the second phase of the response.

## Transition Phase (6 months onwards) \*\*

*\*\*This period will be pending further assessment and evolution of the context*

Responses in the transition phase will prioritize a move to durable solutions by providing affected populations with the necessary resources to be self-reliant and address protracted displacement patterns.

## Sectors and Programming

**Basic needs (multi-sectoral) to new displacement and areas which continue to be affected by the conflict**– Continued provision of emergency multi-sectoral assistance to new displacement and can include delivery of SNFI, emergency WASH, and cash and voucher programming.

**Protection** – DRC will continue to conduct protection monitoring and reporting on the dynamics in key protection risk patterns, along with information dissemination and provision of PFA. DRC will assess the capacity to scale up in the provision of focused, non-specialised psychosocial support (PSS) group activities by existing staff and through other protection partners. DRC will assess the appropriateness of continuing existing teams focused on case management and establishing protection case management in other areas to respond to protection risks at the individual level. When possible, DRC will support community-based networks and structures that will allow for communal resilience building.

**Economic Recovery** - to restore livelihoods and economic activities so that conflict- affected population self-reliant and seek early solutions, DRC will undertake economic recovery activities as per the needs and evolving context, to target those who remain vulnerable and have lost all their assets and livelihoods or who are lower skilled or facing challenges to re-enter the labour market and supporting essential and critical businesses to recover to provide services and products.

**Early Solutions** - From the onset of the emergency response, DRC will assess which activities can lead to early solutions once the humanitarian situation has relatively stabilized. Specific sectors and activities will be developed with the evolving situation.

## Estimated Budget

DRC along with partner agencies will aim to deliver a multi-sector, area-based emergency response to the Sudan crisis in priority locations across Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Chad and CAR. In order to reach this objective within the first 6 months of the crisis, the total budget of 17,230,000 (USD) will be required\*.

Country	Locations*	Estimated People that can be reached	Budget Total (USD)
Sudan**	Central Darfur, Gedaref, South Kordofan, Khartoum, West Darfur, White Nile, Aj Jazirah	135,000 people	10,230,000 USD
South Sudan	Renk, Malakal, Juba Ajuong Thok/Panatouch, and other entry and/or transit points for refugees/ refugees who are forced to return	85,000 people	1,750,000 USD
Ethiopia	Gambella and Tigray	15,000 people	2,000,000 USD
Chad	Oaddai and Sila	15,000 people	2,500,000 USD
Central African Republic	Birao, Vakanga	4,950 people	750,000 USD

\*Based on the context, funding availability and coordination with other humanitarian actors, DRC may scale up presence beyond these initial targeted locations.

\*\*Figures includes current business continuity plans and reprogramming efforts.



# DRC Response in Sudan



Prior to the conflict, DRC Sudan has been present in **Khartoum, Central Darfur, Gedaref and South Kordofan**. DRC currently remains present in these affected areas despite the volatile safety and security environment, prioritizing adapting existing programming to the rising needs, and assessing the opportunity to deliver multi-sectoral emergency programming. Previous programming was focused on building the self-reliance of communities through multi-sectoral durable solutions programming, and protection. However, with the change in needs and the continuous increase in displacement across the country, DRC acknowledges there is a need to shift to emergency programming and simultaneously creating pathways for early solutions.

Foreseeing that this crisis will be prolonged and the humanitarian situation will only continue to deteriorate, DRC will continue to monitor displacement within its areas of operation, consistently assess the needs of those affected in coordination with other lifesaving providers, and advocate for the need to cover funding gaps and donor flexibility for agile programming.

## DRC Sudan in numbers

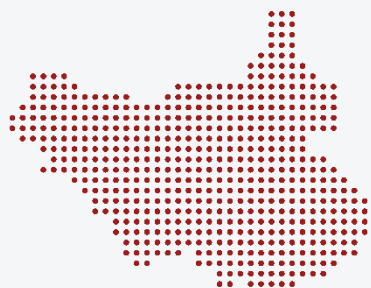
**204 staff members**

**\$15 million programme portfolio**

**7 operational offices and presence across 4 states**

Area of Intervention	Prioritized Programming	Current Status	Funding Required
<b>Khartoum</b>	Protection, Economic Recovery and Shelter & Infrastructure programming, HMA	Currently suspended due to insecurity and ongoing fighting	<b>2,163,000 USD</b>
<b>Gedaref</b>	Protection, Economic Recovery, and CCCM programming to refugees and host communities Multi-sectoral response to emerging needs from the recent conflict	Protection programming has continued without major disruption Initial needs assessment ongoing	
<b>South Kordofan</b>	Adapted protection and Economic Recovery programming to existing and emerging needs Humanitarian Mine Action Multi-sectoral emergency response	DRC continues to operated and situation remain relatively stable with shift to prioritized programming	
<b>Central Darfur (Zalingei)</b>	Emergency integrated protection assistance, Economic Recovery, Shelter & Infrastructure, and multi-sectoral emergency response	Suspension of some activities due to complex security situation	<b>561,000 USD</b>
<b>Expansion into new areas (West Darfur, White Nile, Aj Jazirah, South Darfur)</b>	Multisectoral emergency programming including emergency integrated protection programming, HMA, Shelter/NFI		<b>7,506,000 USD</b>

# DRC Response in South Sudan



## DRC South Sudan in numbers

**391 staff members**

**\$20 million annual  
programme portfolio**

**7 operational offices with  
mobile responses**

DRC South Sudan is a **key emergency response provider with the capacity to respond in the most affected areas including hard to reach populations** within a short timeframe. DRC operations are strategically located within Upper Nile state, Unity state, Easter Equatoria, Western Bahr Ghazal, Jonglei and with the main office in Juba. DRC has technical capacity in the areas of Protection. Camp Coordination & Camp Management, Economic Recovery, Shelter & Settlements, and Humanitarian Disarmament and Peacebuilding. Intervention modalities for the above sectors include static, semi-static and mobile response. Through its mobile response modality, DRC is able to deploy multi-sectoral response teams within seven days after receiving an alert in order to provide emergency support through protection assistance, emergency camp management and provision of shelter/NFIs.

In the context of the ongoing Sudan crisis with the continuous influx of refugees and refugees who are forced to return to South Sudan, DRC has deployed its multisectoral **Mobile Response Team** to Renk where the majority of entry points for these conflict-populations are located. Additionally, DRC through its operations in Malakal, has prepositioned staff and continues to coordinate for the potential influx of conflict-affected populations.

Area of Intervention	Prioritized Programming	Current Status	Funding Required
Upper Nile (Renk, Malakal)	Provision of lifesaving protection assistance and scale up in emergency CCCM, Shelter and Settlements  Leadership role in coordination structures	Ongoing with mobile response teams deployed in Renk and static operations present in Malakal	<b>1,750,000 USD</b>
Juba	Urban cash programming and/or adapted programming within urban and semi-urban areas	Planning	
Entry points/transit locations for refugees/ refugees who are forced to return	Provision of lifesaving protection assistance and emergency CCCM interventions in border areas in Ruweng Administrative area, Northern Bahr el Ghazal and Western Bahr el Ghazal	Planning	

# DRC Response in Ethiopia



## DRC Ethiopia in numbers

**336 staff members**

**\$12.8 million annual programme portfolio**

**7 operational offices across different regions**

Currently, the influx of conflict-affected populations from Sudan are refugees, refugees who are forced to return and third-party nationals who are looking to travel through Ethiopia to other countries, or who are seeking safety and refuge within Ethiopia. Transit centres are being set up at the border points in Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz regions to assist new arrivals, with priority needs identified including food, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, health and nutrition, shelter, non-food items and protection services. While the situation continues to remain fluid in terms of onward movement out of Ethiopia and to urban centres within the country, DRC is engaging in coordination forums and supporting the monitoring of needs and prioritizing programming across its areas of operations for the event of influx of affected populations. As of May 12 2023, more than **18,500 people of over 60 nationalities have crossed through the Metema border** since the outbreak of violence with increase in daily crossings, and up to 100,000 Ethiopians and 30,000 third country nationals are projected to enter Ethiopia based on current flows.

Beyond Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz, recent border monitoring in Gambella indicates several hundred new arrivals of South Sudanese refugees from Sudan, who are largely seeking family reunification in existing refugee camps (Kule, Tierkidi, Ngunyyiel, and Jewi). Given the closure of Pagak reception centre in 2022, there is a need to activate reception centres and transit centres as well as activate an emergency response plan including increasing protection monitoring efforts.

With current operations in both Gambella and Tigray, DRC is closely monitoring developments in those border areas and building up preparedness.

Area of Intervention	Prioritized Programming	Current Status	Funding Required
Gambella	Border protection monitoring, emergency support (protection, cash, NFIs)	Protection team is monitoring key border points, in coordination with RRS/UNHCR. Needs preparedness/pre-positioning to respond when needed	1,000,000 USD
Tigray	Protection monitoring/ Rapid protection assessment, protection response, HLP support and Multipurpose Cash Assistance	Planning	1,000,000 USD

# DRC Response in Chad



## Humanitarian situation - Scale and trends:

**Population movements continue, with large groups entering Chad:** 30 000 have arrived the 10 and 11 of May, and another 27,000 on the 20th to seek refuge in Chad, bringing the total number of refugees to an estimate between 75 and 80,000 people. 63% of refugees counted are women (up to 80% for the latest arrivals in Sila) and 66% are children.

The MSA show major gaps in protection, WASH (access to water), shelter and basic necessities. There are concerns on tensions that will grow around limited resources, between host communities, former and new refugees. If a majority of refugees mention that they did not face protection threats since crossing the border (63%), over a third have been victims of physical violence, which is double of those who reached Chad in the first couple of weeks. Access to basic services remains weak (21% have the information about existing service). Two third of the households do not intend to return to Sudan if the situation improves.

## Humanitarian response / plans

**Relocation:** the refugees are spread in villages along the border. Chadian authorities and UNHCR are conducting sensitizations to prepare the relocation to existing refugees camps (rationale for relocation: security risks along the border and difficulties to provide assistance in actual camp setup).

**Capacities for camps to absorb influx of refugees remains a challenge:** UNHCR has requested the extension of some existing refugee camps to host new arrivals. However the relocation may not be done on time due to logistics constraints (hard to reach areas), the arrival of rains and the reluctance of some refugees to move.

DRC operates three projects in Chad: the P21 protection monitoring (UNHCR/DRC funded by FCDO), RECAP (set up of a network of peace building experts under a consortium led by WANEP, one or our local partners) and SRF<sup>1</sup> (humanitarian pool fund hosted by DRC and funded by FCDO). Nevertheless these two activities are managed from Dakar RO and DRC is not registered as a legal entity in Chad.

The extremely hard to reach area, limits of access to services, profile of the refugees and concerns over increasing tensions over resources lead to a DRC positioning with emergency protection and NFI responses, along local stakeholders, which rapidly leads to efforts towards self-reliance, livelihood and access to legal aid. The region is extremely vulnerable to floods between June and October, limiting access and creating conditions for food insecurity, health epidemics and reduced access to assistance.

Area of Intervention	Prioritized Programming	Current Status	Funding Required
Ouaddai	Protection monitoring, rapid protection assessment, PSS, emergency support (protection, cash, NFIs) and disaster preparedness (preparation to the rainy season and likely floods). In a second phase, DRC will support towards self-reliance and durable solutions.	P21, protection monitoring, is deployed with UNHCR's partners with technical support of DRC/UNHCR. Through the Sahel Response Fund, DRC is channelling 1 Mo £ to consortia of partners (FCDO funding). DRC is not yet registered in Chad. A scoping mission has identified partners with whom DRC can deploy emergency protection responses and disaster	2,500,000 USD
Sila			



# DRC Response in Central African Republic



## DRC CAR in numbers

**163 staff members**

**\$6.8 million annual programme portfolio**

**5 operational offices across different regions**

The last monitoring indicates that around **10,000 people have crossed the border into CAR** in Am-Dafock. Amongst them an estimate 3,500 people are Central African refugees who were forced to return. The locality of Amgroumaye, located 35 km from Am-Dafock has been selected to relocate refugees, but **access to the area is very difficult** and security unstable. A survey on intentions to move is underway. There are an estimate of 26,000 people in need affected by the displacement, this figure includes host communities. First responses are provided by humanitarian organizations presents in this area before the crisis but are not at scale yet: transitional shelters, NFI support latrines and vaccines. Gender based violence is a concern.

The situation in Sudan is likely to increase insecurity in the prefecture. Armed groups and opportunistic criminals are likely to increase their presence as access to services and resources reduce and borders are not well controlled.

DRC CAR is a **key emergency response provider with the capacity to respond in the most affected areas including hard to reach populations** within a short timeframe. DRC operations are located within Ouham and Ouham Pense Prefectures and with the main office in Bangui. DRC has **technical capacity** in the sectors of Protection, Shelter & Settlements, WASH and Economic Recovery. DRC's mobile emergency team has deployed in Birao to provide PSS, emergency protection and NFI to the new arrivals and most vulnerable in host communities. The new arrivals include both Sudanese refugees and CAR nationals.

On the 24 May, a team of humanitarian workers has suffered a deadly attack, a first in the prefecture for many years. UNHCR is looking at location near Birao to relocate refugees from Am-Darfock, in prevision of the reduced access from the coming rains and the increased insecurity. Shelter, NFI, Protection will be needed immediately, rapidly followed by economic recovery responses.

Area of Intervention	Prioritized Programming	Current Status	Funding Required
<b>Vakanga:</b> Birao-Am Dafock axis	Protection monitoring, rapid protection assessment, PSS, emergency support (protection, cash, NFIs). In a second phase, DRC will support towards self-reliance and durable solutions, with a focus on livelihoods.	DRC mobile team is in Birao to do a rapid protection assessment and provide emergency protection and NFI responses.  DRC does not have a permanent base in the Vakanga prefecture.	<b>750,000 USD</b>



Founded in 1956, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) is Denmark's largest international NGO, with a specific expertise in forced displacement. DRC is present in close to 40 countries and employs 9,000 staff globally.

DRC advocates for the rights of and solutions for displacement-affected communities, and provides assistance during all stages of displacement: In acute crisis, in exile, when settling and integrating in a new place, or upon return. DRC supports displaced persons in becoming self-reliant and included into hosting societies. DRC works with civil society and responsible authorities to promote protection of rights and inclusion.

Our 7,500 volunteers in Denmark make an invaluable difference in integration activities throughout the country.

DRC's code of conduct sits at the core of our organizational mission, and DRC aims at the highest ethical and professional standards. DRC has been certified as meeting the highest quality standards according to the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability.

HRH Crown Princess Mary is DRC's patron.

To read more about what we do, see: [www.drc.ngo](http://www.drc.ngo)

**DRC** DANISH  
REFUGEE  
COUNCIL  
• We are there

**For more information:**

James Curtis, Executive Director for East Africa & Great Lakes – [james.curtis@drc.ngo](mailto:james.curtis@drc.ngo) |  
DRC East Africa & Great Lakes Regional Office – Lower Kabete Road – Nairobi, Kenya