



# **UN WOMEN SUDAN COUNTRY OFFICE OVERVIEW**

**June 2023**

# CONTEXT

## 15th April -- conflict erupted between the RSF and SAF in the aftermath of escalated hostility from power struggle

- Areas most affected are Khartoum, Darfur and Blue Nile
- Over 600 reported deaths (actual much higher) and over 5000 injured
- 2.1 million people have been internally displaced (60% from Khartoum)
- 644,841 have fled as refugees into neighboring countries
- Humanitarian needs increased from 5.8m (Nov. 2022) to 24.7m by mid May - 57% increase.
- Access to critical lifesaving services & supplies - food, water, cash, fuel, health care, electricity is critically hampered
- 67% of hospitals located near conflict zones are out of service
- Funding required USD 2.6 billion of which only 17% has been funded



# IMPACT ON WOMEN AND GIRLS

- According to UNFPA, almost 3.1 million women and girls are at risk
- Protection challenges for women and girls (GBV, SEA and CRSV) in conflict zones, in IDP/refugee camps and in transit
- Loss of livelihoods- increased risk of SGBV/SEA
- Food insecurity due to conflict and drought, an additional 5 million people need immediate emergency aid
- Before the crisis, 42% of female-headed households had less food compared to 31% of male-headed households
- In Khartoum alone, 219,000 are pregnant women and 24,000 will give birth in the coming weeks
- Millions of children are out-of-school, vulnerable to gender-based violence and negative social norms/harmful practices, child marriage & FGM



# OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

- Lack of accessibility of humanitarian corridor
- Reduced humanitarian and development footprints, with scarce operation from Port Sudan
- Bureaucratic impediments (logistics, visa, communications channels etc.)
- Collapse of the banking system, and money transfers jeopardizing the transfer of funds internally and externally
- Insecurity and looting of humanitarian offices and supplies (lack of respect for humanitarian laws)





# UN WOMEN RESPONSE

**Immediate allocation of Core funding to support humanitarian response and needs (USD\$630,000)**

1. Rapid Gender Assessment undertaken and in-depth RGA on course
2. Support for women led organizations to actively engage in the humanitarian response
3. Procurement of Non-Food Items
4. Recruitment of additional capacity (Security Specialist)
5. UN Women in collaboration with the Office of the AU Special Envoy on WPS, AWLN and IGAD jointly convened a solidarity meeting with women of Sudan

# RAPID GENDER ASSESSMENT

## Key Findings

- Women and youth-led organizations provide life-saving aid (basic needs, SGBV response) with limited external support
- Emergence of female-headed households and increase burden, due to separation of families
- Increased SGBV against women in hotspots, in transit and in camps
- In the absence of camps in different States, IDPs are hosted by families and communities, exposing women and girls to SGBV
- Women IDPs have re-established small enterprises in IDP receiving States
- Leverage capacities of WLO and youth-led organizations and other CSO initiatives through training and funding

## Key Immediate Recommendations

- Advance small grants to strengthen operational and programmatic capacity
- Create awareness on the principles of humanitarian response to support their participation in the humanitarian programme cycle, incl. PSEA & GiHA
- Integrate GBV prevention and mitigation measures across all response efforts, incl. in cluster-coordinated initiatives
- Undertake capacity assessment of new WLOs, youth-led organizations, CSO initiatives

## Key Mid-term Recommendations

- Strengthen women's leadership in GiHA through training and funding GiHA Curriculum
- Link Women and youth-led organization to the WPHF
- Resource the establishment of an online platform with database of women-led organizations offering humanitarian response options
- Establish a budget for continuous rapid gender assessments, regular production of Gender Alerts and UNW GBV strategy

# Planned Actions

1

Enhance coordination among women, young women-led organizations, and rights holders (displaced women and girls) through women situation rooms

2

Undertake protection risk assessments and provide training on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse targeting frontline organizations and UN Staff

3

Support UNFPA in raising awareness on the availability of services to women and girls in the targeted States





**THANK YOU**