

Sudan SNFI Cluster Meeting

Summary Notes of Cluster Monthly Meeting –

Monday, Sep. 09, 2024

Time: 13:00 – 14:30 PM

Venue: In person / Ms Teams

PARTICIPANTS

Partners	Representative
International NGOs	ADRA, CRS, Save the Children, Solidarite International, HDPO, LMI/ IAS, CAFOD, ALIGHT, MEDAIR,
National NGOs	BSVO, UPO, AGWA
UN organizations	UNHCR, IOM, UNMAS
National authority	
Donors	BHA / USAID
Others	Internews

AGENDA

- **General updates**
- **Shelter and NFI response progress.**
- **Presentation from Mine Action Advisory Team**
- **Gedaref City Assessment finding – MSF**
- **Internews Presentation**
- **Roundtable on Achievement and Operational Plans**
- **AOB**

Quick summary:

The meeting focused on the severe impact of flooding and conflict in Sudan, highlighting significant displacement and urgent needs for shelter, NFI, and other humanitarian assistance. Partners discussed coordination challenges, assessment findings, and the necessity for improved reporting and collaboration to address gaps effectively. Additionally, a new digital information platform, Kadenet Ham, was introduced to the audience to aid in disseminating health and protection information and mapping services for affected populations.

1. General updates

- The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reported that there are currently 10.8 million displaced Sudanese across all 18 states, reflecting an increase in locations from 8,500 to 8,842 since the previous report. This figure includes 2.3 million displaced before April 15, 2023, and a significant number displaced after the conflict began on that date. Additionally, 2.3 million individuals have sought refuge in neighboring countries due to the ongoing violence.

- Regarding the flooding, since the rainy season began, 173,000 people have been displaced across 15 states and 57 locations. The floods have destroyed 31,000 houses and partially damaged 32,000. This situation has exacerbated the need for shelter and NFIs, which was already dire due to the conflict.
- Recent displacement trends have been noted in Gedaref, Blue Nile, River Nile, Northern, and West Darfur states, with increases of over 10,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in each. Gedaref alone has seen the arrival of 70,000 new IDPs. Some regions, such as Sema and Al Jazeera, have recorded decreases in IDP figures, potentially indicating secondary displacements. Over the last two weeks, approximately 100,000 people have been displaced from these areas to other states.
- The coordination Team provided further insights into the volatile security situation, especially in Darfur and Kordofan regions, where airstrikes by Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and shelling by Rapid Support Forces (RSF) continue. This has resulted in a deteriorating humanitarian situation, especially in cities like Al Fasher, Al Ubaid, and Dilling, all of which are under siege.
- Heavy rains and flooding have compounded these challenges, restricting the movement of military personnel, shelter, and NFI stocks. Essential supplies, including NFIs and core relief items, remain unavailable due to limited capacity among cluster partners. Several partners have attempted to resume activities, but the sheer scale of displacement far outweighs the current operational capacity.
- Access remains a critical challenge, with several supply trucks stranded due to ongoing airstrikes. In some cases, drivers have been subjected to violence, and essential goods have been looted. The destruction of key infrastructure, including the Mourni Bridge, has further delayed responses. Abbas emphasized the need for partners to continue engaging with the Shelter and NFI Cluster to avoid duplication of efforts and fill critical gaps.
- UNHCR reported on the recent flooding in Red Sea State, specifically in Arbaat, Tokar, and Hagik. A joint assessment mission revealed that 73 villages were affected, displacing over 7,000 people. With many families now living in makeshift shelters, the immediate needs include temporary shelter, mosquito nets to prevent malaria, and solar lamps due to the lack of electricity. Some responses have already been initiated. ADD distributed 500 NFI kits, while Samaritan's Purse and UNHCR are preparing additional distributions. However, access to remote areas such as Tokar remains difficult, and further assessments are planned to determine the full extent of the damage.

2. Shelter and NFI Cluster Response Update

The Shelter and NFI Cluster meeting for Sudan highlighted response progress and challenges for August 2024. The cluster aimed to assist 2 million people with a \$213 million funding requirement, but only 47% (955,000 people, including refugees) had been reached. While NFI kit distribution exceeded initial targets, emergency shelter assistance and others activity fell short, with only 57% of needs met. Assistance declined from 47,000 households in March to 19,592 in August, mainly due to funding shortages and reporting issues. Most aid (89%) focused on NFIs, with only 11% for shelters, with top 3 areas of responses being Darfur, Kordofan, and Blue Nile. Funding was identified as a major challenge for assistance reduction, while partners like the Samaritan Organization and GFTO South Darfur provided updates on their distributions. Concerns were raised about inconsistent reporting, and the Coordination team urged partners to improved use of the ActivityInfo platform to reflect real needs.

3. Presentation from Mine Action Advisory Team (MAAT)

The Shelter and NFI Cluster Meeting in Sudan featured a presentation from the Mine Action Advisory team focusing on the dangers of explosive contamination caused by the ongoing conflict. Prior to the conflict, efforts were already underway to clear unexploded ordnance (UXO) and landmines, particularly in Darfur, but the situation has worsened due to increased conflict. Contamination now affects both rural and urban areas, including homes, schools, roads, and humanitarian bases, posing severe risks to civilians and humanitarian workers. The widespread presence of UXOs and landmines has led to injuries, deaths, and restrictions on movement. Children and displaced populations are particularly at risk. Essential infrastructure like schools, roads, and water stations are inaccessible, further complicating humanitarian efforts. A heat map was presented to highlight areas most affected by contamination, with high-conflict zones posing the greatest risk. To tackle these challenges, the Mine Action team provides technical advice, risk awareness training, and mapping of contaminated areas. They accompany humanitarian missions to assess safety, but full clearance will take years. With only three team members currently in Sudan (and three more expected), the team will regularly support humanitarian actors and provide monthly contamination reports. Efforts are also underway to raise awareness among civilians, especially those returning to conflict zones. Reporting mechanisms for explosive hazards are in place, but the team's capacity for clearance operations is limited, though expected to grow by 2025.

- In the Q&A session, participants emphasized the need for more technical support and awareness, particularly in high-risk areas like Darfur, which the team committed to providing.

4. Gedaref City Assessment Findings (MSF)

MSF highlighted severe health and living conditions across the sites, with overcrowding, poor sanitation, and almost no access to primary healthcare. Some clinics were operating but lacked sufficient drugs and staff. MSF observed large numbers of vulnerable populations, including disabled individuals, pregnant women, and children, who were facing dire living conditions without adequate health or sanitation services. Key findings from Minnabari included high rates of malnutrition: MAM (Moderate Acute Malnutrition) was 22.4%, which is close to the global threshold for critical malnutrition levels.

- Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) conditions were reported as alarming across all assessed sites. Water access was below Sphere standards (e.g., 4.34 liters per person per day in Minnabari, well below the 15-liter standard), and latrines were severely overcrowded, with as many as 698 persons per latrine in Minnabari. Soap was unavailable at most sites, and water sources were limited, further exacerbating the risk of waterborne diseases.
- Shelter conditions were poor, with IDPs living in unfinished buildings, schools, and overcrowded spaces without basic facilities. There was no access to electricity in most camps, and critical shortages of non-food items (NFIs) such as blankets, cooking utensils, mattresses, and jerrycans were reported. Additionally, essential items like diapers and sanitary pads for women were also lacking, contributing to a higher vulnerability among IDPs.
- Food insecurity was prevalent, with limited or no food distribution in most sites. Minnabari, with the largest population, had no food distribution at all. Other sites like Custom School and Tardan School were in a similar situation. The

WFP provided ad hoc food distributions at a few sites, but these efforts were insufficient to meet the population's needs.

- MSF provided several urgent recommendations, focusing on the need for immediate multi-sectoral interventions, particularly in shelter, NFI, WASH, and health services. Dr. Frank emphasized the necessity for improved coordination among humanitarian actors to avoid duplication and to ensure that IDP needs are met promptly. He also urged for increased involvement from shelter and NFI specialists such as UNHCR, IOM, and NRC.
- CCCM National Cluster Coordinator team raised concerns about a lack of coordination between humanitarian actors, particularly MSF, and the state-level coordination mechanisms. He emphasized that while the gaps are significant, several partners are already on the ground, making efforts to advocate with local authorities for better access to IDPs. Abdi stressed the importance of engaging the subnational cluster coordination in Gedaref to avoid duplications and ensure a more coherent approach to service delivery.
- MSF acknowledged the challenges and assured the participants that MSF was working to align their operations with the local coordination mechanisms. He reiterated the difficulties in accessing certain areas due to bureaucratic obstacles but expressed optimism that their data and findings would support advocacy efforts to facilitate greater humanitarian access.

5. Roundtable on Achievement and Operational Plans

- ACTED (Site Management Partner): Provided an update on emergency latrines in Al Huli camp, noting that the number of latrines is insufficient for the IDP population. Coordination is ongoing with the WASH department to address the gap.
- NRC and IOM Announced that they had 500 shelter kits and NFI materials in the pipeline, ready for distribution. NRC is procuring an additional 2,900 NFI kits and 1,400 shelter structures (Rakubas).
- Save the Children reported ongoing efforts in Minnabari, but access remains an issue for further scaling up.
- UNICEF (WASH Lead): Expressed concern over the WASH conditions and committed to coordinating with partners to improve water supply and sanitation in the most affected sites.
- Several partners highlighted the need for improved advocacy at the state and national levels to address the bureaucratic hurdles limiting access to IDP camps. Participants agreed that a coordinated approach is essential to streamline humanitarian efforts.
- The site management cluster in Gedaref inform that they will hold bi-weekly meetings, and all partners were encouraged to actively participate in these sessions.

6. Presentation from Internews

- Internews introduced the participants to **Kadenafhan** platform, a digital service developed by Internews in partnership with NRC and IRC. The platform is available primarily in Arabic but features a translation option to switch to English, allowing for broader accessibility, especially for humanitarian partners. Kadenafhan operates as both an information service and a two-way communication tool. It allows users to engage with digital community liaisons via Facebook, WhatsApp, email, and a helpline managed by NRC. The platform is divided into two main components. The first component consists of articles that address key information needs, which are identified through social media listening and feedback. These articles cover topics of immediate concern, such as cholera prevention and treatment, in response to the current outbreak in Sudan. The second component is an interactive service map of Sudan, which allows users to locate various humanitarian services by region. As of the meeting, the platform had mapped 89 services, with more expected as organizations continue to submit their information.
- Participants were encouraged to actively engage with the Kadenafhan platform, not only by sharing it with affected communities but also by contributing to the service map. The goal is to provide comprehensive and up-to-date information on available services, helping to bridge information gaps for displaced and vulnerable populations. The link to the Kadenafhan platform, along with instructional materials, would be shared with all participants. Humanitarian organizations were urged to review their participation in the service mapping process and ensure their services are accurately represented. Additionally, all organizations were encouraged to promote the platform within their networks and share it with communities in need.

7. AOB

Flood Mitigation Training

Participants were reminded about the upcoming flood mitigation training session, scheduled for September 17, 2024, from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM. This training follows the PASA training held the previous week. The facilitator ensured that all participants had received the invitation to this session. Those who had not received the invitation were instructed to contact the organizers to be added to the participant list.

Request for High resolution photos.

Following a request from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) for high-resolution photographs related to the ongoing response activities and field operations, The coordination team encouraged partners to share any relevant high-resolution images they possess. These photos are intended for inclusion in the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) 2025 document.

The PowerPoint of the presentation are available [HERE](#) .

8. List of participants

Full Name	Agency	Type
Abas - SORR		
Abdifatah Farah Gure	UNHCR	United Nations
Abdulaziz from	COOPI	International NGO
Adam Mahmoud- TGH WASH Coordinator		
Ahmed sulieman		
Ali Ibrahim	UNMAS	United Nations

Alnor Blue Sky	BLUE SKY	
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Badrelislam		
Communications UPO	UPO	
Shukiri Yahia Abakar	ECDO	
Eljaili Mohammed	UNHCR	United Nations
Elsadig Haroun Adam	CWW	International NGO
Eltahir Elnour		
Essam Al Washaly	NRC	International NGO
Fatima Ahmed Altahir National	NOHS	
Gerard HAVYARIMANA		
GHARAIBA Abdelqader	IOM	United Nations
Haitham Osman Abdelrahman	UNHCR	United Nations
Hamid, Muhammad	SCI	International NGO
Henry Moses Omony	DRC	International NGO
Ibrahim, Najmeldin	SCI	International NGO
Kadjo Modeste Kouassi	UNHCR	United Nations
Kamal Alrashed		
Khalid Ibrahim Mohamed	MEDAIR	International NGO
Maaly Abdallah	UNHCR	United Nations
mahasin Al-mamun		
Malloreay FitzGerald	USAID	
Matt UNMAS		
Mohamed Ahmed Matok	UNHCR	United Nations
MOHAMED Elfaisal	IOM	United Nations
Mohamed Osman	UNHCR	United Nations
Mohammed Eltahir GFO		
Mohammed Eltahir/GFO		
Mohammed Seyam	UNHCR	United Nations
Mona Idriss		
MSFCH-Khartoum-MedCo	MSF	International NGO
Muhammad Hamid Ahmad- Sawa Sudan Org		
Muhammad Khan	UNHCR	United Nations
Nahla	LMI/ IAS	International NGO
Osman Haroun	Alight	OsmanH@wearealight.org
Owais Khairy (Sudan Agwa Org)	Agwa Org	
Ralph Chirovamangu	WHH	International NGO
Richmond Elijah Mkopa Msowoya	UNHCR	United Nations
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Robert AKUA-HDPO DCD/PH&N Specialist	HDPO	
Rodney Shamoun	NRC	International NGO
samar Abbas	JASMAR	
Sara/ADD		

Shadan Namiq	NRC	International NGO
Sifa Kasongo	USAID	
Stephen Mutisya	NRC	International NGO
Marine SALAS	SI	International NGO
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Tagelsir Sirelkhatim		
Takudzwa Jera	ADRA	International NGO
Tatiana Khrol-Lappalainen		United Nations
Telley Sadia	CAFOD	tsadia@cafod.org.uk
Yahia / SAO		
Zeinab Ibrahim		

URL: [ES/NFI Cluster Sudan Website](#)

