



**SUDAN
SHELTER CLUSTER**

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements



SUDAN
Site Management Cluster
Supporting displaced communities



**SUDAN - 2026 HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND
RESPONSE PLAN**

**SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS CLUSTER
SITE MANAGEMENT CLUSTER**



January 2026

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS CLUSTER HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE PLAN



15.4M

People In
Need



1.8M

People
Targeted



1.6M

People
Prioritized



\$179.4M

Financial
Requirement

Needs Overview

In 2026, 15.4 million people require Emergency Shelter and Non-Food Items assistance across Sudan. Inter-sectoral severity analysis and site-level assessments indicate that a significant proportion of displaced households fall within the highest severity categories due to structural shelter failure, overcrowding, and repeated asset loss. The most acute needs are concentrated in Darfur states, parts of Kordofan, and high-density displacement hubs affected by conflict and flooding.

More than one in ten displaced households live in collapsed or structurally unsafe shelters. Up to 40 per cent report overcrowding and lack of privacy. Recurrent flooding and fire incidents have destroyed shelters and essential household items multiple times in some locations, reinforcing cyclical emergency needs and increasing humanitarian replacement costs.

Shelter inadequacy directly increases protection risks, including gender-based violence, exploitation, eviction, and fire hazards. Female-headed households, older persons, and persons with disabilities face disproportionate exposure due to mobility limitations and lack of structural reinforcement.

Market functionality varies significantly across states. It does not automatically translate into affordability, as high inflation and liquidity shortages continue to constrain purchasing power. While some urban and peri-urban areas demonstrate partial market recovery, insecurity, supply chain disruption, and high inflation continue to limit access to affordable shelter materials in many high-severity locations. Access constraints and land tenure uncertainties further affect delivery and sustainability.

Response Strategy

The 2026 SNFI response aims to reduce immediate exposure to life-threatening shelter risks while preventing repeated loss and secondary displacement.

The Cluster will focus on:

- Emergency shelter and core NFI assistance for newly and repeatedly displaced households facing acute exposure.
- Transitional shelter solutions in protracted displacement settings to reduce chronic overcrowding and protection risks.
- Safe self-recovery and light repair support for verified returnees in areas meeting minimum safety and security thresholds in line with voluntary, safe and dignified return principles.
- Integration of disaster risk reduction measures, including elevation, drainage support, and structural reinforcement to mitigate flood and storm impact.

Interventions will be adapted to context, combining in-kind and market-based approaches where feasible. Protection-sensitive design, accessibility standards, and coordination with Site Management and WASH will ensure safer layout, privacy, and hazard mitigation.

Targeting and Prioritization

Of 15.4 million people in need, 1.8 million will be targeted, with 1.6 million prioritized under the most constrained funding scenario. Geographical prioritization focuses on high-density displacement areas in Darfur and other conflict-affected states where structural shelter failure and flood exposure overlap.

Prioritization criteria include:

- Households living in structurally unsafe or collapsed shelters.
- Locations with repeated flood damage and asset loss.
- Return areas where homes are damaged to the extent that they are unsafe or unfit to live in.
- Households facing heightened protection risks, including female-headed households and persons with disabilities.

The Cluster requires 179.4 million USD, with 149.4 million USD prioritized. Under constrained funding, assistance will concentrate on households facing immediate survival risks.

Monitoring and Accountability

Impact will be monitored through post-distribution monitoring, shelter condition tracking, and integration of feedback mechanisms in collaboration with Site Management actors. Key outcome indicators will measure reduction in unsafe shelter conditions, improved privacy and protection perception, and decreased repeated asset loss in flood-prone areas.

Cost of Inaction

Without prioritized shelter intervention, families will remain exposed to preventable protection incidents, environmental shocks, and recurrent displacement. Repeated destruction of shelters and NFIs will increase emergency replacement costs and undermine investments across sectors.

Investment in risk-informed shelter assistance contributes to stabilizing displacement settings, protects dignity, and reduces long-term humanitarian expenditure.

SITE MANAGEMENT CLUSTER

HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE PLAN

Photo. A displacement site in Tawila where internally displaced persons (IDPs) families from El Fasher have constructed makeshift shelters © UNHCR/ Mohammed Jalal



4M

People In Need



1.7M

People Targeted



1.5M

People Prioritized



\$15M

Financial Requirement

Needs Overview

In 2026, 4.0 million internally displaced people require Site Management support across Planned IDP sites, collective centres, and informal settlements. Severity analysis confirms that highest risks are concentrated in high-density sites in Darfur and other displacement-affected regions where coordination gaps, environmental exposure, and weak governance overlap.

Only a small proportion of households report formal occupancy arrangements, increasing eviction risk and insecurity. Overcrowding, unplanned expansion, and inadequate drainage heighten exposure to flooding, fire, and disease outbreaks. Sites without structured coordination demonstrate higher levels of service duplication, unmet needs, and protection incidents.

Community consultations highlight limited access to information, weak complaint systems, and insufficient participation in decision-making. Women, youth, older persons, and persons with disabilities are often underrepresented in site governance structures.

Operational constraints include access restrictions, insecurity, funding limitations, and limited partner presence in some high-severity locations.

Response Strategy

The 2026 Site Management response aims to ensure safe, organized, and accountable site environments that enable effective humanitarian delivery and protect displaced populations. **Displacement sites are not a preferred or long-term solution, but are often established as a last resort in response to acute displacement and protection risks.** Site Management functions act as an enabling service that safeguards investments made by all operational clusters within displacement settings.

Meaningful and continuous community engagement is central to this approach. Participatory site governance structures, transparent communication, and feedback mechanisms are essential to ensure displaced populations are informed, represented, and able to influence decisions affecting their living conditions.

Priority interventions include:

- Structured site management coordination to strengthen service mapping, gap identification, and inter-sectoral planning.
- Site maintenance and minor rehabilitation, including drainage construction and regular cleaning, firebreak establishment, small-scale hazard mitigation, and environmentally responsible waste management practices to reduce flood and fire impact and mitigate environmental degradation.
- Strengthening accountability to affected populations through complaint and feedback mechanisms, transparent information sharing, and inclusive governance structures with meaningful participation of women, persons with disabilities, and other at-risk groups.
- Support to site closure or decommissioning processes linked to returns or relocations in line with voluntary, safe, and dignified return principles. The Cluster does not support forced, premature, or coercive closures and will align with inter-agency guidance on voluntary, safe and dignified site closure and decommissioning. **Where feasible, site planning will incorporate early transition and exit considerations to prevent protracted encampment and support durable solutions pathways.**

Targeting and Prioritization

Of 4.0 million people in need, 1.7 million will be targeted, with 1.5 million urgently prioritized. Interventions will focus on high-risk sites characterized by:

- High population density and overcrowding.
- Flood and fire exposure.
- Limited or absent site-level coordination presence..
- Elevated protection risks identified through monitoring.

The Cluster requires 15.0 million USD, with 13.1 million USD prioritized. Despite comparatively modest financial requirements, Site Management safeguards multi-sectoral investments across shelter, WASH, health, and protection interventions.

Monitoring and Accountability

Performance will be tracked through regular site monitoring, service mapping updates, and feedback system utilization rates. Outcome indicators will measure improved coordination coverage, increased access to complaint mechanisms, and reduced hazard-related incidents in supported sites.

Cost of Inaction

Without effective site management, displacement sites deteriorate rapidly. Flooding damages shelters and WASH facilities, increases the risk of disease outbreaks, and fragmented coordination can lead to operational inefficiencies and suboptimal use of limited resources.

Investment in Site Management protects lives, strengthens accountability, and safeguards hundreds of millions of dollars in humanitarian programming delivered in displacement settings.

ANNEXES

Shelter and NFI Indicator Framework

Activity name	Indicator description	Indicator unit
Provision of emergency shelter assistance	Number of households provided with emergency shelter support (ESK)	Household
Provision of emergency shelter assistance	Number of households provided with emergency shelter support (Tent)	Household
Provision of shelter repair and reconstruction toolkit	Number of households provided with a shelter repair and reconstruction toolkit	Household
Provision of shelter and settlements training	Number of individuals provided with training related to shelter and settlements	Individuals
Provision of shelters with privacy for women and girls	Number of shelters and common structures constructed or rehabilitated that offer privacy for women and girls	Shelters
Provision of shelters accessible to persons with disabilities	Number of shelters and common structures constructed or rehabilitated that are accessible to persons with disabilities	Shelters
Provision of rental support	Number of households receiving rental assistance	Household
Distribution of NFI kits	Number of households supported with NFI/EHI	Household
Provision of collective site rehabilitation	Number of individuals who benefited from the construction or rehabilitation of collective sites	Individuals
Provision of infrastructure improvements in settlements	Number of households benefiting from infrastructure improvements to existing permanent sites and settlements	Household
Installation of street lights	Number of households benefiting from installation of street lights	Household
Provision of DRR measures in shelters	Number of households benefiting from incorporating DRR measures in sites and / or settlements	Household
Provision of transitional shelter support	Number of households provided with transitional shelter solution	Household

Site Management Indicator Framework

Activity name	Indicator description	Indicator unit
Provision of site management services	Number of IDPs in sites benefitting from minimum standards for Site Management	Individuals
Carry out site/area-level assessments and monitoring	Number of site-assessment/monitoring reports produced	Products or reports
Site maintenance and rehabilitation	Number of displacement sites benefitting from site improvements aimed at reducing hazards (fire, flooding, cyclone eg)	Displacement sites or areas
Site maintenance and rehabilitation	Number of displacement sites benefitting from improvement work (construction/repair/cleaning drainage, slope stabilisation, etc.)	Displacement sites or areas
Conduct risk mitigation practices	Number of sites covered by safety audits	Displacement sites or areas
Establish and strengthen community participation and representation mechanisms	Number of inclusive governance structures established	Structures/Groups
Implement community referral mechanism services	Number of sites with active with Community Referral Mechanisms	Displacement sites or areas
Implement community referral mechanism services	Number of referrals completed with a reply to the person who submitted the feedback	Feedback
Undertake awareness raising and community engagement	Number of individuals participating in awareness raising sessions	Individuals
Capacity-strengthening activities for beneficiaries	Number of people reached with capacity-building initiatives	Individuals
Plan and implement site closure and exit strategies	Number of sites closed or decommissioned	Displacement sites or areas

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Photo. A group of women carry their belongings across muddy ground at a gathering site for internally displaced people near Kassala, Sudan © UNHCR/Aymen Alfadil