

URGENT

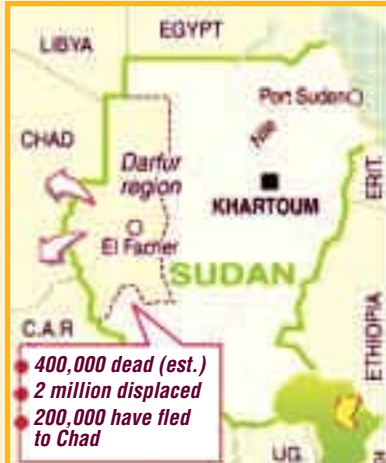


CHURCH WORLD SERVICE



THE SUDAN / DARFUR CRISIS

War has displaced more than 2 million people in the western Sudan region of Darfur, forcing them into makeshift camps; more than 200,000 others have fled across the border into Chad. Those affected have experienced looting; their homes, crops and livestock have been destroyed; they have witnessed executions of civilians; mass rape of women and girls is common. People in the camps are living in deplorable conditions; diseases such as cholera, meningitis and polio threaten those most at risk, including infants, sick children and the elderly.



The situation in Darfur is the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today, according to the United Nations.

opposition groups have fought the Sudanese government in the dispute, and the government has, in turn, supported nomadic militia called the Janjaweed. The militia is accused of gross human rights violations, including executions, mass rapes and looting.

"The real problem we face at the moment is insecurity," said Khadia Abdullah Kabir, living now in the Al Hamidia camp for displaced persons. "If we go outside to fetch firewood, we are attacked by the Janjaweed. About half of the women around here have been attacked at one time or another."

A Troubled History

Conflicts in Darfur between settled farmers and nomads moving south in search of water and pastures have been commonplace for centuries. In recent years these conflicts have been aggravated by drought and the influx of arms from wars in neighboring countries. Armed



This polarized situation, along with difficulty in getting aid to those in need because of resistance by the Sudanese government, has resulted in one of the **worst humanitarian crisis in the world today, according to the United Nations.**

Support is needed now →

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A Broad-Based Response

Church World Service is responding to this crisis by working with CWS partners and members of the Action by Churches Together (ACT) network — the Sudan Council of Churches (SCC) and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA). Also involved in the effort is Caritas Internationalis, a confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social service organizations.

This 18-month ecumenical effort is providing food, medicines, water supplies and sanitation, as well as seeds, tools and psycho-social counseling to 500,000 of the most vulnerable persons in the Darfur region, including 50,000 malnourished children.

Assistance Includes:

\$80 will provide a family of five with:

- Two plastic sheets, three blankets, two mosquito nets, one household kit (consisting of cooking supplies), one water can and 10 bars of soap.
- Seeds and tools.
- Fortified cereal, oil, and sugar for children at risk.
- Access to basic health care through regional clinics.

\$818 will provide sanitation assistance, including:

- One toilet per four families (20 persons) and wells providing water for up to 250 people.

Contributions to support this work may be sent to your denomination or to:

Church World Service, P.O. Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515

Credit card gifts: www.churchworldservice.org or 1-800-297-1516

Please designate: Sudan-Darfur Crisis



Photos: Nils Carstensen DOA/ACT International, Associated Press

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Regional Office Toll-free: 1-888-297-2767