



SUDAN COUNTRY BRIEF

THE STATE OF THE
HUMANITARIAN SYSTEM 2026

6. CONCLUSION

In Sudan, it is not just the scale of need that stands out, but the way the response is organised under fragmentation and access constraints. In many locations, assistance has moved through locally embedded networks because these have been able to operate where the presence of formal actors has been limited or delayed.

These local networks have not replaced the formal system, but they have reshaped what it can realistically deliver. The response depends on local capacity, local legitimacy and informal finance, while formal coordination struggles to convert plans into consistent coverage across frontlines. Protection needs are increasingly recognised, but services remain irregular and politically sensitive. Sudan offers a concrete case for rethinking how the humanitarian system shares risk, resources and decision-making when access is structurally contested.



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