



Emergency Agricultural Support in Sudan (2026–2028)

Strategic Imperative for Action

Advocacy Note for Partners, Donors and Government

AGENDA

- 1. Opening Remarks**
- 2. Emergency Agriculture Advocacy Note Overview by FSL Cluster (10 mins)**
- 3. Agriculture Bridging Crisis and Resilience by Solidarites International (15 mins)**
- 4. Women's role in agriculture in Sudan and gendered impact of food insecurity by Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (20 mins)**
- 5. Livelihood Challenges and Resilience in Sudan: Evidence from Smallholders, Rural Households by IFPRI (20 mins)**
- 6. Livestock in Emergencies (Sudan experience) by the FAO (15mins)**
- 7. Conclusion and AOB**

CRISIS THRESHOLD REACHED



Fundamental stability of the nation's food systems threatened.

28.9M

People facing acute food insecurity

10.2M at Severity Levels 4 & 5 (Severe to Extreme)

The Breakdown

- Agriculture contributes 25% of GDP and employs 65% of the population.
- Widespread displacement and conflict have fragmented local markets.
- Loss of seeds, tools, and livestock has undermined smallholder production.
- Community feedback: 79.8% report aid does not cover basic needs.

THE BREADBASKET COLLAPSE



Conflict-affected regions are witnessing a near-total cessation of commercial and subsistence operations.

- **Al Jazirah:** Historically produced 50% of Sudan's wheat; faced total disruption.
- **MSME Crisis:** Over 50% of agrifood micro-enterprises have relocated; fewer than 20% operate at capacity.
- **Supply Chain Failure:** The "hidden middle" linking farmers to markets significantly affected.

GENDERED VULNERABILITIES



Women-Headed Households:

- 75% are food insecure
- 3x more likely to face food insecurity than male-led households
- Women account for 85% of rainfed agriculture in Darfur and Kordofan
- Conflict compounds barriers: lack of land tenure, limited input access
- 73.7% of women do not meet minimum dietary diversity

LIVESTOCK ASSET DEPLETION



- Livestock sector: 115M head, critical for nutrition and exports

2022 Export Value

\$550M+

2025 Export Value

\$293M (-47%)

- Herd depletion and collapse of veterinary services threaten child nutrition and rural economy.

WORSENING PRODUCTION DEFICIT

Cereal Production (2025/26 Season Comparison)



Pre-War Average

100% (Baseline)

2024 Production

-22% drop

2025/26 Projection

-25% vs Baseline

Neglecting local production exacerbates price spikes and creates nutritional gaps for the vulnerable.

MULTISECTORAL STRATEGIC BENEFITS

Health & Nutrition

Fresh milk and vegetables essential for child survival, reducing acute malnutrition.

Local Production

Restores food supply chains, reduces dependency on imports and aid.

Protection

Reduces negative coping mechanisms (child labor, sexual violence risks).

Self-Reliance:

Provides dignified pathway from relief to sustainable livelihoods.

Agriculture in Emergencies is a multi-sectoral platform that delivers outcomes across nutrition, health and protection

THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR INVESTMENT

29 X

Return on Investment

Efficiency in Relief

Every USD 1 invested in sorghum seeds yields USD 29 worth of local produce.

- Cost Reduction: Local production is exponentially cheaper than imported food aid.
- Proven impact: \$17M seed investment in 2025 contributed 22.2% of national sorghum production.
- Prevents permanent dismantling of local production systems.

SAFE ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Explosive Hazards: Integrate Risk Education (EORE) with demining to ensure agricultural investments are safe

Do No Harm: Household-level interventions minimize taxation/diversion risks.

Land Access: Resumption of farming in Gedaref, River Nile; Al Jazirah remains priority.

Conflict Sensitivity: Community-led targeting to avoid aid diversion and fueling war economy.

RECOMMENDATIONS – PARTNERS



- **Inclusive targeting** (women, PWDs, older people)
- Strengthen **protection referral mechanisms**
- Agriculture–Nutrition–Health **integration**
- **Decentralized** farmer associations
- Prioritize **agricultural demining**

RECOMMENDATIONS – DONORS



- **2026 Funding Requirements \$117 Million USD Gap** – Required to reach an additional 6.3M hyper-prioritized people.
- **Multi-Year Commitment:** Shift to at least 12–24-month funding cycles to match agricultural seasons
- Target Population: 11 million people
- Current Reach: 1 million people
- Overall Gap: 10 million people
- Hyper-prioritized gap: 6.3 million people

RECOMMENDATIONS – GOVERNMENT



- Ensure safe trade routes
- **Fast-track permits** for monitoring & response

CONCLUSION



- Planting season window closing June 2026
- Agriculture = cost-effective, dignified, sustainable pathway
- Multi-sectoral benefits
- Emergency agriculture + food aid = lifesaving + foundation for recovery

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