

# SITUATION REPORT SUDAN


**SWITCHBOARD**

## HIGHLIGHTS

### POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

The UNITAMIS Chief and UN Special Representative in Sudan, Volker Perthes, warned that unless a stable political situation and credible government is established soon, the situation in Sudan will continue to deteriorate ([UN, 2022](#)). Conversely, however, the newly appointed US Ambassador to Sudan, John Godfrey, met with the Resistance Committees and Forces for Freedom and Change ([DabangaSudan, 2022](#)) and indicated his support for their "insistence on a new civilian government and their quest for freedom, peace, and justice" in a tweet. The Sudan Bar Association consulted with a number of pro-democracy movements before proposing a draft constitution framework document, which was welcomed by the international community ([EU, 2022](#); [US Gov, 2022](#)).

### CHILDREN IN CRISIS

Children in Sudan are suffering from a multitude of crises: food shortages and a lack of clean drinking water and basic health care. Around seven million children are out of education in Sudan, and 70% of 10-year-olds cannot read or write ([UNICEF, 2022](#)). In addition, children in conflict affected areas continue to suffer from human rights violations in unstable political conditions ([UN Children and Armed Conflict report, 2022](#)).

### SECURITY

Renewed intercommunal fighting in the Blue Nile region left at least 23 people dead and tens more injured ([DabangaSudan, 2022](#)).

### ECONOMY

Working Sudanese are unable to meet basic needs with skyrocketing inflation ([DabangaSudan, 2022](#)) and strikes across the country over low salaries and unpaid dues. Striking workers included junior doctors, civil servants, electricity and power workers, and a radio and TV strike ([DabangaSudan, 2022](#)). Traders and merchants in several states also went on strike in response to the state's hefty tax increases as part of its strategy to fill the national treasury ([DabangaSudan, 2022](#)). For the second year in a row, Sudan is not receiving any financial support for its annual budget.

### FOOD SECURITY

Climate shocks, tribal conflicts and skyrocketing food prices have left Sudanese struggling to access and afford basic food commodities (FAO, 2022), which increased 5–10% between August and September of this year. At least 15 million people—one-third of the population in Sudan—are suffering from hunger (WFP, 2022), with WFP warning of an increase to 18 million this month. Additionally, heavy rainfall since August has left 122 dead and destroyed more than 123,420 feddans of crops ([DabangaSudan, 2022](#)).

### CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

Sudan is one of the largest producers of gold in the region, but there are concerns regarding the use of the cyanide and mercury in gold mining. Although the government did ban the use of harmful substances (Business and Human Rights Resources Centre, 2019), this has not yet been implemented. At the beginning of September, young members of the Six-Party Committee for the Protection of the Environment in Sawadra successfully prevented a water tanker from reaching an International Mining Company plant in the area ([DabangaSudan, 2022](#)). It is worth noting that protests about mining in this area have been ongoing since 2017. In July of this year, CNN published an investigation showing how Russia uses Sudan's gold to fuel its war against Ukraine (CNN, 2022).

## CASE STUDY



### SUDANESE PEDIATRIC DOCTORS

This project established remote training for junior doctors-in-training in Sudan and was led by Sudanese pediatricians in Saudi Arabia, the UK, Canada, Australia and the US. The impetus for this came from the rising need to support junior doctors in Sudan to achieve competence, as the latest round of exams for pediatric certification yielded a poor success rate.

**SOURCES:** Political Developments <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1127591>  
Economy <https://www.acaps.org/country/sudan/crisis/complex-crisis>  
<https://www.imf.org/en/Countries/SDN>