

# SUDAN

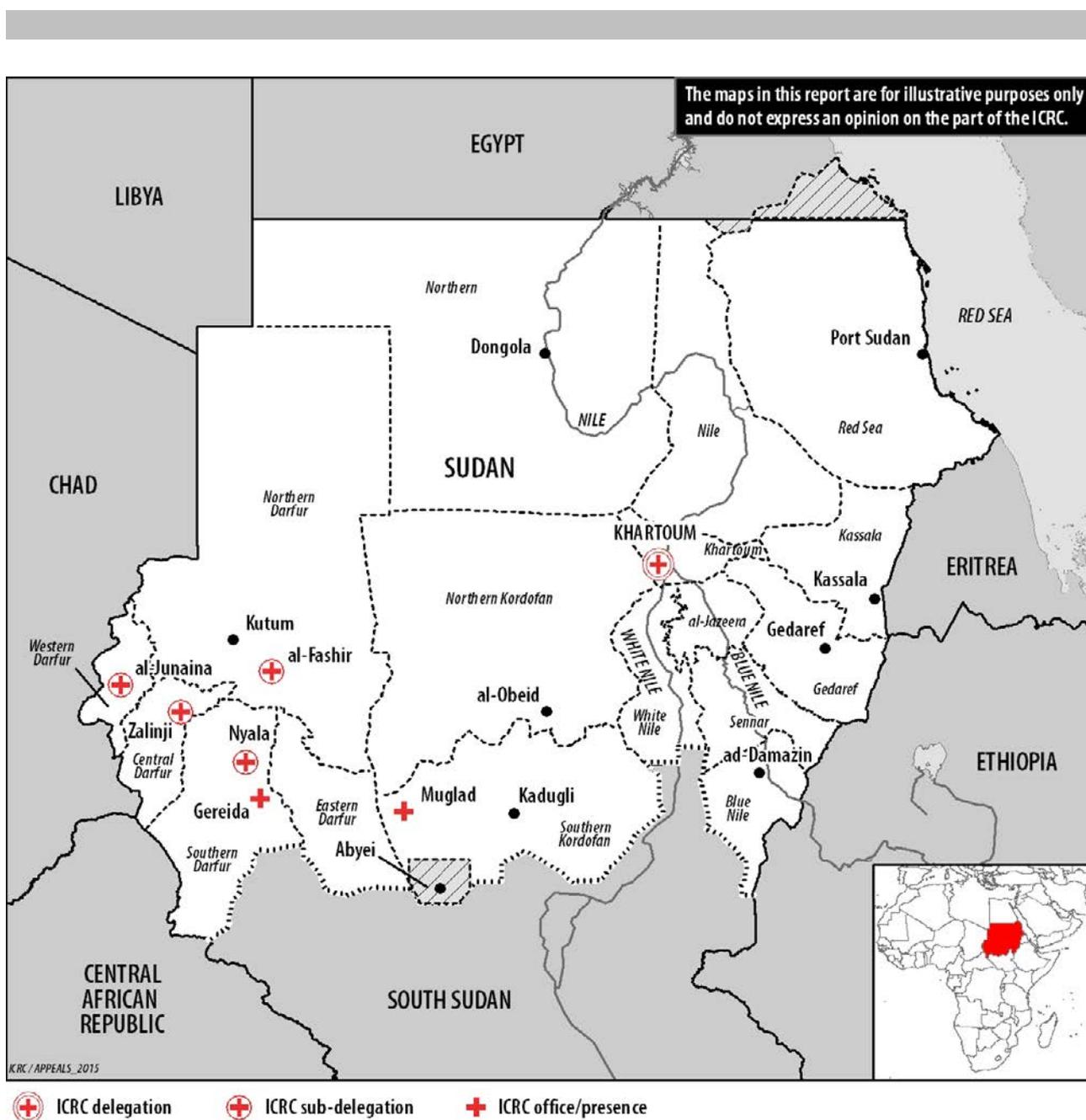
The ICRC has been present in Sudan since 1978. It focused on addressing the consequences of armed conflicts in Darfur and between South Sudan and Sudan. Based on an agreement with the authorities, it pursues discussions on the requirements/procedures necessary to fully resume its work addressing needs arising from conflicts in the country – particularly ensuring that conflict-affected people are protected in accordance with IHL and other internationally recognized standards; receive emergency aid, livelihood support and medical care; and can restore family contact. When operational, the ICRC works in close cooperation with and supports the Sudanese Red Crescent Society.

## BUDGET IN KCHF

Protection	462
Assistance	856
Prevention	2,691
Cooperation with National Societies	706
General	243
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,958</b>
<i>Of which: Overheads</i>	<i>303</i>

## PERSONNEL

Mobile staff	4
Resident staff (daily workers not included)	126



## MAIN TARGETS FOR 2015

- ▶ the authorities, including the Humanitarian Aid Commission, facilitate the full resumption of the ICRC's humanitarian activities in Sudan within the framework of the new headquarters agreement signed in August 2014
- ▶ after the completion of the necessary arrangements with the government, vulnerable people, including detainees, benefit from renewed efforts to promote their welfare and/or help them cope with the effects of armed conflict

## CONTEXT

Hostilities between government troops and armed groups in Darfur, and in Blue Nile and South Kordofan, continue. According to reports, the escalation of fighting in Darfur has resulted in over 350,000 more people becoming displaced; this is in addition to the 2 million who have been displaced for some time. Only about 131,000 people had been able to return to their homes at the time of writing. Intercommunal violence continues to take place sporadically in Abyei, an area disputed by South Sudan and Sudan, and throughout Sudan.

The arrival of tens of thousands of refugees from South Sudan (see *South Sudan*) strains the meagre resources of host communities. The decrease in oil transit revenues, caused by the fighting in South Sudan, has weakened Sudan's economy even further and exacerbated the hardship experienced by conflict-affected people.

International organizations have limited access to conflict-affected people in large parts of Darfur; to a narrower extent, to those in Blue Nile and South Kordofan; and to newly arrived refugees in areas bordering South Sudan. In compliance with government directives, humanitarian assistance is usually channelled through the Sudanese authorities, including the Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), and local NGOs.

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

The ICRC will continue its efforts to strengthen acceptance for its neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian action in Sudan. In August 2014, a new headquarters agreement defining the ICRC's status and regulating its work in the country was signed by the authorities and the ICRC; this resulted in the lifting, in September, of the suspension of ICRC activities imposed by the government in February 2014. Constructive discussions with the authorities on requirements and procedures for facilitating the full resumption of ICRC programmes in Sudan are in progress.

As this Appeal does not include the means to resume the full range of ICRC operations in Sudan – including emergency response, health services, livelihood support, projects to ensure sustainable access to water, and activities to promote the welfare of POWs and other people held in relation to the conflicts – the ICRC will appeal for more funds for its operations once the necessary arrangements have been made.

In the meantime, the ICRC will continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in conflict-affected areas, wherever possible. It will make confidential representations to the authorities and weapon bearers concerned on allegations of abuse, reminding them of their responsibility under IHL or other applicable law to respect and protect people not/no longer involved in the fighting and to facilitate their access to humanitarian aid. To help the National Authority

for Prosthetics and Orthotics (NAPO) make national physical rehabilitation services more accessible to disabled people, it will continue to finance the education of two NAPO technicians abroad.

Regular dialogue with the Sudanese authorities, including HAC officials, will aim at fostering better understanding of the humanitarian nature of ICRC activities and of the organization's working methods. With a view to resuming joint activities with the Sudanese Red Crescent Society, the ICRC will seek, through meetings, to clarify both organizations' roles in responding to humanitarian needs in the country; it will also lend its expertise to develop a strategic plan for implementing activities in line with the Fundamental Principles and Movement policies.

## HUMANITARIAN ISSUES AND ICRC OBJECTIVES

### CIVILIANS

Civilians reportedly experience direct attacks and other abuses allegedly perpetrated by parties to the armed conflicts and other situations of violence. The disruption of livelihood activities by armed conflict and intercommunal clashes has reportedly resulted in food insecurity. Many people displaced by armed conflict/violence remain in camps or in the main towns, where water systems and other basic infrastructure are inadequate. Such circumstances can be exacerbated by an upsurge in violence. Humanitarian activities to address these matters are closely regulated by the Sudanese authorities.

#### Objective

Civilians are respected by all parties to armed conflict or other situations of violence, in accordance with IHL and other applicable law. People affected by these situations meet their immediate needs and have the basic resources to restore or preserve their livelihoods.

#### Plan of action and indicators

##### Protection

- ▶ discuss practical arrangements with the HAC and other pertinent government departments to facilitate the resumption of ICRC operations within the framework of the headquarters agreement signed in 2014 (see *Humanitarian response*); continue to engage in regular dialogue with the authorities to solidify their acceptance of the organization's work (see *Actors of influence*)
- ▶ wherever possible, monitor the situation of conflict/violence-affected people; based on information collected in Sudan from people who approached the ICRC or gathered by ICRC delegates in countries hosting Sudanese refugees, make confidential representations on alleged abuses to the relevant authorities and weapon bearers, reminding them of their obligation under IHL or other applicable law to respect and protect people not/no longer taking part in the fighting

## WOUNDED AND SICK

There are many people with disabilities in Sudan; in most cases, their disabilities were caused by armed conflict/violence. To provide adequate services, the NAPO needs more trained personnel; however, qualified prosthetic/orthotic professionals are scarce in the country.

### Objective

People with physical disabilities have access to good-quality prostheses/orthoses and physiotherapy.

### Plan of action and indicators

#### Assistance

- ▶ enable 2 prosthetic/orthotic technicians from NAPO to take training courses abroad by covering tuition fees and other related expenses

## ACTORS OF INFLUENCE

For international organizations and foreign NGOs, access to conflict-affected areas remains limited (see *Context*). The HAC regulates the activities of humanitarian actors in Sudan.

### Objective

National authorities and weapon bearers know and respect IHL and other fundamental rules protecting people in armed conflict and other situations of violence, and incorporate these into their decision-making processes. Community leaders, academics, journalists and other influential people help foster awareness of humanitarian issues and IHL among all those involved in the conflicts/violence and the wider public, thus achieving greater respect for human dignity. All actors understand the ICRC's mandate and support the Movement's work.

### Plan of action and indicators

#### Prevention

- ▶ to foster respect for IHL and acceptance for the ICRC's activities and working methods among the Sudanese authorities, including the HAC, and the wider public:

- continue to engage in dialogue with the authorities – including Sudanese diplomats at permanent missions abroad – on: the neutral, impartial and independent nature of the ICRC's work; the need for humanitarian access to all populations affected by armed conflict, including detainees; and the pressing concerns of these people (see *Civilians*)
- raise public awareness of and support for IHL and the ICRC's mandate and activities, by issuing press releases on ICRC activities in other contexts, for example

## RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT MOVEMENT

The Sudanese Red Crescent is the largest humanitarian organization in the country, with a countrywide network of volunteers. It should be capable of working according to the Fundamental Principles and in coordination with other Movement components.

### Objective

The Sudanese Red Crescent carries out effective activities for people affected by armed conflict or other situations of violence in accordance with the Fundamental Principles. The activities of all components of the Movement are coordinated.

### Plan of action and indicators

#### Cooperation

- ▶ with a view to resuming joint activities with the National Society, through meetings with its representatives:
  - exchange information on the humanitarian needs of conflict/violence-affected people
  - clarify the roles and working methods of the National Society and the ICRC
  - together with other Movement components in Sudan, provide the National Society with technical advice for developing a strategic plan in line with the Fundamental Principles and Movement policies, particularly for working in partnerships
  - lend expertise for carrying out assistance activities in accordance with the Safer Access Framework