



UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

El Fasher, Sudan

FLASH UPDATE

Oct 28, 2025

Highlights

- The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have entered El Fasher after more than 540 days of siege.
- The humanitarian situation is catastrophic, with the last functioning maternity hospital attacked and contact with medical staff lost.
- Women and girls, including more than 6,200 pregnant women, remain trapped in the city without access to medical or humanitarian aid.
- UNFPA is operating a 24-hour basic emergency obstetric and newborn care (BEmONC) facility in Tawila, providing comprehensive reproductive health and protection services to women and girls who have fled El Fasher in recent months.
- UNFPA has prepositioned life-saving reproductive health (RH) supplies in South Darfur, ready for dispatch as soon as humanitarian access is granted.
- UNFPA has established three women and girls' safe spaces (WGSSs) in Tawila and two WGSSs in Al Dabba to provide protection and psychosocial support.



260,000

Total people affected ¹



62,400

Women of reproductive age²



6,200

Estimated pregnant women ²



30,000

People targeted w/life-saving SRH services



30,000

People targeted w/GBV programmes

¹ Government of Sudan estimates.

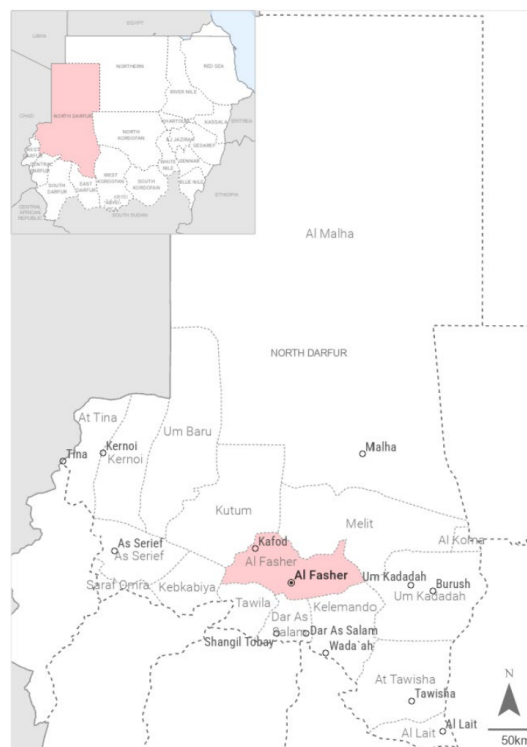
² Estimated figures are based on the Minimum Initial Services Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings calculator.

Situation Overview

The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have entered the city of El Fasher after more than 540 days of siege. The humanitarian situation inside the city is catastrophic with reports of atrocities, including summary executions and gender-based violence. The maternity hospital in El Fasher, the last partially functioning medical facility, has been attacked again, and all contact with its medical teams has been lost.

Women are at extreme risk of violence, including sexual violence. The situation on the ground makes it impossible for protection teams to provide post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) within the critical 72-hour window.

More than 6,200 pregnant women are currently trapped in the city, caught between ongoing gunfire and bombardment, with no access to medical or humanitarian support. Our partners are on standby to enter El Fasher with essential supplies and to provide protection and reproductive health services once a humanitarian corridor is established.



Preliminary reports indicate that 33,485 individuals were reportedly displaced between 26 and 28 October 2025 due to the ongoing clashes in El Fasher town and surrounding areas of North Darfur.³

Civilians currently have two main exit routes from the city:

- Tawila, North Darfur, where most civilians are likely directing. However, the camp there is severely overcrowded, already hosting more than 630,000 displaced people with very limited services and resources.
- Mellit, North Darfur: Chosen primarily by those intending to continue their journey toward Al Dabba in Northern State.

The journey from El Fasher to Al Dabba can take up to 15 days on foot. Available transportation is extremely limited and expensive.

³ DTM Sudan Flash Alert: Al Fasher (Al Fasher town), North Darfur (Update 104): 28 October 2025.

UNFPA Response

Sexual and reproductive health

UNFPA has prepositioned reproductive health supplies in South Darfur sufficient to meet the needs of 300,000 people, including provisions for approximately 800 safe deliveries. These supplies will be dispatched once humanitarian access is granted.

UNFPA operates a 24-hour BEmONC facility in Tawila, providing comprehensive reproductive health and protection services. The facility is staffed by 16 personnel, including doctors, midwives, laboratory technicians, and pharmacists.

UNFPA has deployed a roving team of midwives to conduct home visits and established a confidential corner in Tawila to support services for survivors of gender based violence, including sexual violence.

In the Northern State, UNFPA is building capacity at Al Dabba Maternity Hospital, providing reproductive health and protection supplies.

Furthermore, UNFPA has begun expanding reproductive health services in Mellit, despite ongoing logistical and financial challenges.

Gender-based violence

UNFPA-supported partners are operating a WGSS in Tawila camp, as well as two WGSS in Al Dabba, to provide essential prevention and response services for gender-based violence.

In Tawila camp, UNFPA has deployed social workers, case managers, and psychosocial support (PSS) staff to deliver protection and mental health services. Additionally, UNFPA is supporting a community protection network, composed of 20 women, who have received training in psychological first aid (PFA) and PSS, to strengthen community-based protection mechanisms.

UNFPA prepositioned 2,200 dignity kits in South Darfur, ready for immediate dispatch as soon as humanitarian access is granted.

Scale-up:

In Melit, North Darfur, UNFPA will scale up its humanitarian response through the deployment of a mobile clinic to provide integrated RH and protection services. Additionally, UNFPA will support the establishment of a temporary WGSS to deliver emergency assistance, including PSS and case management, and will initiate community-based protection and referral mechanisms. UNFPA will also expand its cash and voucher assistance to displaced people from El Fasher. This will include:

- Cash support for pregnant and postpartum women (within six weeks after delivery)
- Emergency reproductive health cash assistance for women and girls
- Protection-related cash assistance, including survivor-centred case management support

Furthermore, UNFPA will procure additional reproductive health and protection supplies to equip health facilities, mobile teams, midwives, and service centres with essential equipment and medicines needed to deliver quality RH and protection services.

To strengthen on-the-ground services, UNFPA will deploy six staff members to Darfur to support the overall response targeting assistance to women and girls.



Conditions for women and their families arriving in Al Dabba are dire

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For more information

Fabrizia Falcione
Representative
falcione@unfpa.org

Sufian Abdulmouty (Media Enquiries)
Communications Specialist
abdul-mouty@unfpa.org