**[Responding to Crisis in Darfur, Sudan](http://www.mercycorps.org.uk/10342)**

[](http://www.mercycorps.org.uk/sites/default/files/imagecache/lightbox/photos/img1114814522.jpg)  
"Mercy Corps staff are currently on the ground in Sudan, working to reach those most in need." Photo: Henry McInnis/Sunday Mail.

With more than a million people displaced by fighting in the Darfur region of Sudan, Mercy Corps is seeking [financial support](https://ssl.charityweb.net/mercycorps/giftbasket/donation.htm?pDonorIntent=Sudan&Custom15=) to provide food, water and other life-saving assistance.

Mercy Corps staff are currently on the ground in Sudan, working to reach those most in need. The organisation is focusing efforts on helping over 60,000 internally-displaced people (IDPs) near the remote town of Zalengei.

Your [contributions](https://ssl.charityweb.net/mercycorps/giftbasket/donation.htm?pDonorIntent=Sudan&Custom15=) can help bring food, water, shelter and other vital relief supplies to families fleeing the growing violence.

Over the past year, ethnic and political violence has destroyed the livelihoods of many people in Darfur. Today, the fighting has escalated, forcing thousands of Sudanese to flee across the border into the neighboring nation of Chad.

Clashes between ethnic groups over land and resources have plagued Sudan for decades. The current conflict is characterized by prolonged clashes between several warring groups. In the confusion of this multi-party discord, farmlands and livestock are being seized and villages looted and burned.

The United Nations estimates that over 175,000 Sudanese have already fled to Chad as refugees. More than 1.4 million people in the Darfur region are directly affected by continued fighting, homeless and vulnerable to hunger, weather and violence.

Conditions among those displaced in Darfur are dire. The United Nations estimates that 49 percent of displaced Sudanese lack food; 88 percent lack shelter; 67 percent lack water; and 93 percent lack adequate sanitation.

“It is abundantly clear that forces, which can no longer be ignored, are at work in Sudan,” said Mercy Corps President Dan O’Neill. “The situation in Darfur is continuing to deteriorate.”

Mercy Corps is currently focusing its efforts on the town of Zalengei, one of the most remote and underserved places in the western region. The organisation's first priority is to help the city manage a clean up as a large number of displaced people relocate from downtown areas to refugee camps.

Emergency aid workers are currently working to supply latrines to these camps. To date, over 100 latrines have been built. Mercy Corps is also conducting hygiene training throughout the camps to improve sanitation and reduce the likelihood of preventable diseases.

The organisation is also working hard to ensure that children in the camps are able to continue their education. Mercy Corps has distributed essential school supplies to over 3,200 students, and there are plans to expand educational programmes in the camps.

Additional assistance includes plastic sheeting for tents. This shelter material is especially critical now that the rainy season has begun. Clean water, hygiene kits and cooking materials are also a priority.

Your [support](https://ssl.charityweb.net/mercycorps/giftbasket/donation.htm?pDonorIntent=Sudan&Custom15=) can bring help and hope to families with no place else to turn. Please make your gift today.

**Using data from the article, make a graph below showing the following:**

* **the percentage of displaced Sudanese who lack food;**
* **the percentage who lack shelter;**
* **the percentage who lack water; and**
* **the percentage who lack adequate sanitation.**