

## Quick Facts: Sudan

### Demography

**Population:** 40.2 million

**Languages:** Arabic (official), English (official), Nubian, Te Bedawie, diverse dialects of Nilotic, Nilo-Hamitic, Sudanic languages

**Religions:** Sunni Muslim 70%, Christian 5%, indigenous beliefs 25%

**Ethnic groups:** black 52%, Arab 39%, Beja 6%, foreigners 2%, other 1%

**Life expectancy:** 50.28 years

**Median age:** 18.9 years

**Population Growth Rate:** 2.1%

**Literacy (age 15+ can read and write):** 61.1%

### Geography

**Capital:** Khartoum

**Area:** 2,505,819 sq. km; slightly more than one-quarter the size of the US

**Natural resources:** petroleum,, small reserves of iron ore, copper, chromium ore, zinc, tungsten, mica, silver, gold, hydropower

### Economy

**GDP (purchasing power parity):** \$80.98 billion

**Currency:** Sudanese pounds

**Population below the Poverty line:** 40%

### Government and Political

**Date of Independence:** January 1, 1956 (from the UK and Egypt)

**Type of government:** Government of National Unity (GNU) - the National Congress Party (NCP) and Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) formed a power-sharing government under the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)

### Displacement

**Refugees (country of origin):**

Eritrea 157,200

Chad 25,023

Ethiopia 11,009

Uganda 7895

Central African Republic 5023

Rwanda 20,213

**IDPs:** 5.3 million-6.2 million

**According to Worldmapper.org Sudan ranks 15<sup>th</sup> in the world for country of Refugee Origin:**

[http://www.worldmapper.org/posters/worldmapper\\_map14\\_ver5.pdf](http://www.worldmapper.org/posters/worldmapper_map14_ver5.pdf)



### Background:

Sudan has been torn apart by internal conflict for most of its independence. The root cause of conflict in southern Sudan and Darfur is the same: the hoarding of wealth and power by ruling elites in the capital Khartoum. Ending genocide in Darfur and fulfilling the promise of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)—a deal brokered by the U.S. and others to end 22 years of war in the South—requires a holistic Sudan policy. The international community must demand full and timely implementation of the CPA—particularly the provisions that pave the way for elections—and deploy additional personnel and resources to ensure that this historic opportunity for a democratic political transformation is not missed. At the same time, the international community must focus on brokering an inclusive peace deal for Darfur, support the full deployment of a UN/AU peacekeeping force, and facilitate the efforts of the International Criminal Court to hold perpetrators of atrocities to account.