



## **Malnutrition Assessment in Central and South Darfur**

This assessment, conducted in collaboration with the Ministry of Health as part of Mercy Corps' response in the region, coincided with household registration for direct cash assistance programs. Due to the alarming food security situation, 100% of households qualify for cash assistance. During registration, every child under five undergoes malnutrition screening using the Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) method. Screening has been conducted across nine localities in these states between June and July 2024.

### **Data from Central Darfur State - 4,132 children screened from 5 localities:**

- Un Dukhun 864 children screened (Red 151, Green 81 and Yellow 634)
- Bendasi, 622 children screened (Red 218, yellow 303 and green 104)
- Mukjar, 1,075 children screened (Yellow 674, Red 290, green 114)
- Wadi Salih, 845 children screened (Green 39, Red 160 and yellow 647)
- Zalingei, 726 children screened (Yellow 542, Red 156 and green 30)

### **Data from South Darfur, State - 3,197 children screened from 4 localities**

- Al Radoum 696 children screened (Red 118, green 386 and yellow 194)
- East Jabel Marra, 535 children screened (Yellow - 386, Red 107, Green 44)
- Nyala North, 1,083 children screened MUAC collected. (Green 770, Red 69, yellow 246)
- Nyala South, 883 children screened (Green 482, Red 93, Yellow 310)

## **Voices from displaced persons camp in South Darfur**

### **Ashia (35-year-old woman)**

*"I had to flee about ten times during the conflict in Nyala Town because of the bombings that affected the ElserEIF IDP camp. This conflict has severely impacted my family's ability to eat. Before, we had a stock of at least 50 kg of sorghum, 10 kg of sugar, 5 kg of cowpea, 10 pounds of oil, 500 g of salt, and at least 60,000 SDG in savings. Now, all our food stocks are gone, and there is no humanitarian assistance. We survive on just one meal a day, without any nutritional value, just to stay alive.*

*There are no working health facilities in the ElserEIF IDP camp, and medicine is very expensive. My son is disabled, and my husband went to North Sudan a year and a half ago to find work, but we haven't heard from him since.*

*Before the conflict, we had several meals a day, including breakfast, lunch, and dinner, with nutritious food like millet flour, bread, vegetables, fruits, and meat. Now, many breastfeeding women can't feed their children, and some men have abandoned their families.*

**Khadiga (57-year-old woman)**

*"The conflict in Nyala Town has affected every aspect of our lives. We have no health services, no education, no water, and no food. Before the conflict, we received food rations funded by the WFP, but they were sporadic, sometimes arriving only once every three months. Even though it wasn't enough, it was better than nothing.*

*"Because sorghum millet is so expensive now, it is difficult to buy enough food. We reduced our meals from two to one per day and reduced the food values without many things, just using dry okra, dry tomatoes, salt, and oil in limited quantities. We are suffering greatly from hunger in Darfur. There is no humanitarian assistance, health facilities, education, or water."*