

Suite à notre analyse Food Security and Livelihoods [HNRP 2026 – FSL Cluster Strategy Narrative]

PiN: **28.9 M**

People targeted: **11.4 M**

of partners: **95**

SUMMARY OF NEEDS

Sudan's severe acute food insecurity is primarily driven by escalating conflict and massive displacements, causing multidimensional stresses (economic, social, physiological, psychological, etc.). These disruptions have been compounded by macroeconomic crisis, characterized by high inflation, currency depreciation, reduced agricultural output, rising food prices and high input costs. Climatic shocks, including droughts, flooding, pest infestation, and animal diseases have been further worsening the situation.

As a result, **28.9 million [61.7%]** population is acutely food insecure, with a breakdown of **817,270 (1.7%) in Severity Level 5 (Extreme/Catastrophe)**, **9.4 million (20.1%) in severity Level 4 (Severe/Emergency)**, and **18.7 million (39.9%) in severity Level 3 (Moderate/Crisis)**.¹ The situation is likely to deteriorate further due to the restricted access, increased siege and limited humanitarian assistance in North Darfur and Greater Kordofan plus high number of IDPs still prevailing throughout the country coupled with significant influx of returnees in states such as Khartoum and Al Jazeera states. All the 18 states are now directly and indirectly affected by the ever-escalating conflict with disrupted trade flows and supply chains and reduced agricultural production and rising prices.

RESPONSE STRATEGY

The FSL Cluster's overriding objective is to address the acute food insecurity and livelihood challenges among the most vulnerable populations. The cluster provides life-saving emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihood support aligned to the SO1² of the Sudan HNRP 2026 and framed under the following two FSL Cluster objectives:

1. Cluster Objective 1 [CO1] – Provide timely life-saving food assistance to vulnerable groups affected by crisis;

Key Cluster Activities [CA] under the CO1 include the following:

- a. Provision of food assistance through cash and voucher
- b. Provision of in-kind food assistance
- c. Provision of Ready-to-Eat [RTE] hot meals

2. Cluster Objective 2 [CO2] – Provide access to critical, time-bound life-saving emergency food production.

Key Cluster Activities [CA] under the CO2 include the following:

- a. Provision of quality emergency agriculture inputs (improved seeds, tools, fertilizers, fishing kits, etc.] through cash and vouchers;
- b. Provision of in-kind quality emergency agriculture inputs (improved seeds, fertilizers, tools, fishing kits, etc.);

¹ FSLA, Oct. 2025

² SO1 – Saving lives and alleviating suffering: reduce crisis related morbidity and mortality through principled, rapid, quality, inclusive and accountable life-saving assistance.

- c. Provision of veterinary services to vulnerable households (vaccination and treatment);
- d. Provision of support for productive animal survival [animal fodder and water]

The FSL Cluster's people in need (PiN) is estimated at **28.9 million, based on** the Food Security and Livelihood Analysis [FSLA]. Out of the latter PiN [following strict prioritization of only severity 4&5 areas under SO1 /lifesaving/ activities, the cluster aims to reach a total of **11.4 million** people. Of these, around **10.2 million** people will receive emergency food assistance with a **resource requirement of \$530.4 million**; while around **9.5 million** people will benefit from emergency agricultural livelihoods support with a **resource requirement of \$114.5 million**. The cluster will also consider the convergence between these two components to address critical food security needs of extremely vulnerable populations. These targets will be achieved through coordinated interventions by FSL cluster partners, which include CLAs, UN agencies, INGOs, NNGOs, CSOs, plus the many non-state actors working at local grass-roots levels, significantly contributing to the cluster's response plan. Both emergency food assistance agricultural livelihood life-saving response will prioritize populations facing severe food insecurity, including non-displaced residents and hosts, newly displaced, and protracted IDPs.

The cluster key advocacy messages will focus on highlighting the prevailing extreme acute food insecurity and livelihood impoverishment situation of massively unprecedented scale and scope. Strong advocacy efforts will be exerted in presenting and promoting the progress of the cluster response reach portfolio plus the multiple challenges being encountered to secure access to hard-to-reach areas and obtaining funding.

The FSL cluster partners will regularly collect, analyze, and disseminate updated reliable, accurate, and credible evidence and data on the acute food insecurity situation to inform decision makers and practitioners alike. The food insecurity information products shall highlight the significant challenges faced, including access constraints, supply chain and market disruptions, high costs of inputs and production reductions, communication issues, and banking problems that hinder the cluster's in-kind and cash-based response interventions.

Overall, enhanced and sustained FSLC response shall be accelerated in order to either halt and possibly reduce the prevailing extreme and catastrophic levels of acute food insecurity by facilitating evidence-based and coordinated cluster response at scale; mobilizing required funding resources; advocating for improved access and resources; and promoting use of creative, innovative, flexible and nimble response approaches. Multi-sectoral convergence among core clusters /FSL, Nutrition, WASH, Health & MPCA/ shall be strengthened. Most importantly, protection and other cross-cutting issues shall be well mainstreaming in the response interventions.

TARGETING & PRIORITIZATION

The FSL Cluster's geographic population priorities and targeting considers the severity of vulnerabilities of affected populations. The cluster targets the population in FSLA Level 4 & 5 as top priorities. In terms of the population categories, the FSL response will prioritize the most vulnerable groups, including IDPs, host communities and non-hosts [in priority order]. The targeting and prioritization process gives special consideration to the protection of persons with disabilities, women (female heads of households, pregnant and lactating women...), children (child heads of households), elderly, and similar others facing heightened risks. For livelihood support, vulnerable farmers, agro-pastoralists, pastoralists, and fisherfolks will be key targets. Household-level targeting will identify the most vulnerable individuals through assessments and analysis of food security and socio-economic conditions. The FSL Cluster operates across all 18 states with a significant



presence of number of partners both international and national, who have capacity to implement the strategic response plan.

RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

The FSL Cluster seeks USD **\$645 million** to assist **11.4** million people in 2026.