

SHRM Emergency Strategy 2023

Project name: Documenting and reporting on human rights violation and International Humanitarian Law in Sudan

Duration: 6 months

Implementation by: The Sudanese Human Rights Monitor (SHRM)

Country: Sudan

Date: 24 August 2023

Monitoring and reporting on human rights

The tragic conflict that erupted on 15 April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) continues to have devastating impact on civilians. In addition, thousands of people have been killed and injured, and millions have fled their homes in search of safety inside Sudan and across its borders to neighboring countries, mainly Chad, Egypt, and South Sudan. Both forces have committed heinous human rights violations including killing civilians, attacking civilians and civilians object, homes and hospitals, looting and ransacking people's homes and properties.

Before the war, SHRM was active in documenting and reporting on human rights after the 25 October 2021 coup. For example, in January 2021, the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS), and SHRM conducted a fact-finding mission in Sudan in various parts of Darfur and Khartoum. In a recent report (Nov 2021), our organisations have made concrete recommendations to address the Sudanese people, aspirations for peace and justice, and in particular for a return to civilian rule and a peaceful transition, but also to develop opportunities to implement accountability mechanisms to address the violence in Darfur. In collaboration with FIDH and ACJPS, we published a joint statement in February 2022 about the human rights situation in Sudan.

In cooperation with REDRESS, we started in March 2022 documenting [remotely and face-to-face] the egregious human rights violations in Sudan since October 2021 and published a joint [report](#) in June 2022. In collaboration with FIDH and ACJPS, we published [a joint statement](#) in June 2022 about the human rights situation in Sudan. We also published a video summarizing the human rights violations experienced by one of the survivors. These outputs were shared with human rights defenders in Sudan, ACHPR, the EU other key members of the UN human rights council.

On 17 April 2023, we published a joint [statement](#) about the war in Sudan that erupted on 15 April 2023. We called among other things to immediately stop the ongoing clashes; support the Sudanese people's aspiration to consolidate democracy through civilian leadership; take all measures to protect the human rights of the Sudanese people and deliver humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable in partnership with UN agencies, international organizations and NGOs. Also, in our advocacy paper in June 2023 we urged the UN Human Rights Council to establish an independent international commission of inquiry on all human rights violations committed since 15 April 2023

Objectives

The project aims in the context of the current war in Sudan to monitor, document and report on International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law violations in Sudan. The objective of this project is threefold:

- ✓ To introduce participants to application of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) principles in Non-International Armed Conflicts (NIAC) with particular reference to the on-going Sudan crisis and other countries. Introducing International Human Rights Law (IHRL).

- ✓ To strengthen the capacity of CSOs to monitor human rights and IHL violations to ensure that monitoring is translated into strong policy.
- ✓ To report and promote human rights and to assume an effective leadership role for the promotion of human rights.

To accomplish these objectives SHRM will organize a series of training sessions in **2023 outside Sudan, and online, to enhance the capacity of HRDs. Also organize human rights monitors network from these groups.**

Activities

1. Training:

These activities are designed to promote the protection of human rights and report on human rights violations in a context of political transition in Sudan. SHRM will organize 4 **trainings sessions** aims to introduce the participants to basic of Monitoring, Documenting and Reporting on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Human Rights violations and Abuses.

The monitoring and documenting and reporting on Human rights violations training sessions will be spread-out during the project period.

2. Webinars/Online Forum

SHRM will organize series of webinars online on thematic issues related to human rights:

- 1) How to address the current conflict and unprecedented human rights violations in Sudan. [September date tbd]
- 2) **The future of the human rights movement in Sudan's challenges and successes. [October date tbd]**
- 3) Sexual violence history in the context of the conflicts in Sudan. [November date tbd]
- 4) **topic to be determined by SHRM.** [December date tbd]

Practical monitoring, documentation and reporting task

Following the end of each training for groups 1,2, and 3, SHRM will request from the groups to apply the monitoring, documentation, and reporting techniques and submit a report on human rights violations in the areas. SHRM will assign a focal point/s to coordinate the group efforts and help them at all stages until they publish their report on IHL violations. The ultimate objective of the training and the reporting exercise is to identify at least 10 HRDs to reestablish the SHRM human rights monitor network.

Target group

Our key target is SHRM's previous network members and reaching out to new human rights defender members from across Sudan. More importantly, in our selection process for the training, we will target HRDs who hail from conflict-related areas in all Sudan. Also, throughout the selection process we will ensure gender balance.

Outputs/ Outcome

Outputs: Plan and organize these sessions on time and ensure all the invited participants attend. As a direct result of our activities, participants from the network receive suitable training exercises to clearly understand the issues addressed to conduct their work more effectively.

Short-term outcomes: Improve human rights defenders work-related skills in these themes. HRDs become more actively engaged with the human rights network's activities related to the training. Participants have started to mobilize their stakeholders in their respective areas and address the issue of human rights violations effectively.

Long-term outcomes: Clear positive impact on the lives of others by substantially improving the respect and protection of human rights in Sudan. Increased advocacy efforts inside Sudan and in the region.