



Community-Based Solidarity Interventions

North, West Kordofan, & North Darfur

April-May 2026

1. Project Background

This report analyzes humanitarian interventions implemented by community-led initiatives and local NGOs in North Kordofan, West Kordofan, and North Darfur. The interventions addressed urgent humanitarian needs arising from displacement, food insecurity, disruption of education, inadequate shelter, health emergencies, and protection concerns. The response efforts targeted internally displaced persons (IDPs), vulnerable host communities, women and girls, students, and conflict-affected households facing deteriorating living conditions due to the ongoing crisis.

The initiatives demonstrated strong community-based responses despite severe operational and security challenges, particularly escalating conflict, inflation, shortages of essential services, and increasing humanitarian needs. Local actors played a critical frontline role in delivering rapid and context-sensitive assistance, often operating in environments with limited humanitarian access and constrained resources. Their interventions reflected high levels of solidarity, volunteerism, and community mobilization aimed at mitigating the impact of the crisis on affected populations.

The humanitarian activities covered multiple sectors, including food security through community-based kitchens (Takaya) and food basket distribution, emergency education support, health assistance, protection services for women and girls, shelter and non-food item distribution, as well as community awareness and capacity-building initiatives. In several cases, the interventions also incorporated peacebuilding and social cohesion activities to strengthen relationships between displaced populations and host communities.

The report further highlights the increasing pressure on local humanitarian actors as needs continue to expand beyond available capacities. Rising transportation costs, fuel shortages, insecurity, overcrowding at aid distribution points, and shortages of water and electricity significantly affected operational effectiveness. Despite these constraints, community-led initiatives continued to provide life-saving support and demonstrated resilience and adaptability in responding to rapidly evolving humanitarian conditions.

Adeela framed the community-based solidarity interventions under the Sawdana Campaign as a transformative advocacy initiative aimed at re-centering Sudanese local humanitarian organizations in the country's humanitarian response system. It emphasized that local responders are the foundation of effective humanitarian action in Sudan because of their resilience, contextual knowledge, and strong community connections, yet they remain hindered by inadequate direct funding, exclusion from decision-making spaces, restrictive policies, unequal security burdens, and external capacity-building approaches that sustain dependency on international actors. Through the Sovereign Sudanese Solidarity campaign, she called for direct and flexible funding mechanisms, stronger institutional support, inclusive humanitarian



coordination, equitable risk-sharing, and policy reforms that place local actors at the center of humanitarian

Overall, the report underscores the importance of strengthening support for local organizations and grassroots initiatives as essential partners in humanitarian response efforts. It also emphasizes the need for increased funding, improved coordination, institutional capacity strengthening, and long-term resilience programming to ensure sustainable humanitarian and recovery outcomes in conflict-affected communities.

2. Overview of Interventions

The interventions focused on six major humanitarian sectors:

1. Food Security and Community Kitchens (Takaya).
2. Emergencies in Education.
3. Health Support.
4. Protection and dignity Support.
5. Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs).
6. Capacity Building and Community Awareness.

The activities were implemented mainly through grassroots initiatives including Basma Amal, Malazat, Amir, Kordofanian Hoosh, Peace and Development Studies Center - Kordofan University, Ashragt Women CBO, and Darfur Youth Centre for Peace and Development.

3. Analysis of Key Interventions

3.1 Food Security and Community Kitchens (Takaya)

Food assistance represented the largest intervention category. Community kitchens provided daily cooked meals and food baskets to displaced persons, vulnerable host communities, volunteers, students, and shelter residents.

Major Achievements

Basmat Amal Initiative:

- Provided a daily cooked meal for 12 days.
- Assisted 100 families in Al-Qalaa North neighborhood.



Malazat Initiative:

- Provided a daily meal for 10 days.
- Assisted 350 families in Al-Radeef neighborhood.





Amir Initiative:

- Provided a daily cooked meal for 10 days.
- Assisted 300 families in Amir neighborhood.



Kordofanian Hoosh Initiative:

- Provided a daily cooked meal for 11 days.
- Beneficiaries included:
 - 197 families at Prince Mahmoud School shelter.
 - 37 displaced families.
 - 100 displaced individuals.
 - 300 female students and teachers from the host community.



Peace and Development Studies Center - Kordofan University:

- Provided a daily cooked meal for 60 students and volunteers for 9 days.
- Distributed 100 food baskets to highly vulnerable families.
- Organized a peacebuilding and social cohesion session promoting community solidarity, peaceful coexistence, and acceptance of others.





Analytical Observations

- Community-based kitchens became critical life-saving mechanisms amid deteriorating economic conditions and displacement.
- The interventions reflected strong local solidarity and volunteerism.
- Integration of peacebuilding activities alongside food distribution strengthened social cohesion between displaced and host communities.
- However, increasing demand exceeded operational capacity, indicating worsening food insecurity.

3.2 Emergencies in Education

Education support targeted students affected by economic hardship and displacement.

Key Achievements

- Tuition fees were partially or fully paid for four female university students unable to continue studies due to financial constraints.
- Schoolbooks and notebooks were distributed to:
 - 24 male students.
 - 26 female students.

Analytical Observations

- The intervention addressed barriers to education continuity during crisis conditions.
- Supporting female students reduced risks of educational dropout and early exclusion from higher education.
- Although relatively small in scale, the intervention demonstrated the importance of localized educational support during emergencies.

3.3 Health Interventions

Health support focused on urgent medical needs among staff members of the Peace and Development Studies Center.

Activities Included

- Eye surgery for one employee.
- Pacemaker installation for one employee.
- Eye examinations for one employee.

Analytical Observations

- Access to specialized healthcare remains severely constrained during the crisis.
- Supporting healthcare needs of humanitarian workers contributes to sustaining community response capacities.

3.4 Protection Interventions

Dignity Kits Distribution

- 50 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls of reproductive age.

Analytical Observations

- The intervention addressed protection and gender-sensitive humanitarian needs.
- Dignity kits contributed to:
 - Menstrual hygiene management.
 - Personal safety.
 - Psychological well-being.
 - Preservation of dignity during displacement and crisis.

Despite the modest scale, the activity highlights growing awareness of gender-responsive humanitarian programming.

3.5 Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

Ashragt Women CBO:

- Distributed 50 shelter tarpaulins to displaced families in Abu Ismail neighborhood, Al-Fula locality, West Kordofan state.

Darfur Youth Centre for Peace and Development

- Distributed 25 rugs, 25 blankets, and 25 food baskets to displaced families in Dabba Al-Nayra camp, Tawila locality, North Darfur state.





Analytical Observations

- Shelter and NFIs remain urgent priorities for displaced populations.
- The interventions provided temporary protection from harsh environmental conditions.
- The scale of support remains insufficient compared to growing displacement levels.

3.6 Capacity Building and Community Awareness

Capacity Building Training

The Peace and Development Studies Centre-Kordofan University conducted a three-day training targeting 11 participants from four Takayas.

Training topics included:

- Report writing.
- Monitoring and evaluation.
- Financial procedures.
- Procurement documentation.
- Sensitive and dignity-based documentation.

Mine and Explosive Awareness Campaigns

Ashragt Women CBO conduct Awareness activities focused on:

- Risks of unexploded ordnance (UXO).
- Safe debris removal.
- Child protection awareness.
- Reporting suspicious objects.
- Use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Analytical Observations

- Capacity strengthening improved institutional and operational effectiveness of local initiatives.
- Awareness campaigns addressed increasing protection threats associated with conflict contamination and urban destruction.
- These interventions are crucial for reducing civilian casualties and improving humanitarian accountability.

Table (1): Initiatives and Interventions

Initiative	State	Locality	Type of Intervention	Description
Basmat Amal	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Food security (Takay/ (Community-Based Kitchen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A daily cooked meal was provided for 12 days to meet the needs of 100 families in Al-Qalaa North neighborhood.
Malazat	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Food security (Takay/ (Community-Based Kitchen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A daily cooked meal was provided for 10 days to meet the needs of 350 families in Al-Radeef neighborhood.
Amir	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Food security (Takay/ (Community-Based Kitchen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A daily cooked meal was provided for 10 days to meet the needs of 300 families in Amir neighborhood.
Kordofanian Hoosh	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Food security (Takay/ (Community-Based Kitchen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A daily cooked meal was provided for 11 days to meet the needs of 197 families At the Prince Mahmoud School shelter in the Al-Jeraif West neighborhood, in addition to 37 displaced families, 100 displaced people, 300 female students and teachers from the host community. • Ingredients for preparing the meal: meat, pasta, oil, spices, sauce, salt, charcoal.
Peace and Development Studies-Kordofan University	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Food security (Takay/ (Community-Based Kitchen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A daily cooked meal for 9 days to 100 displaced people residing in front of the Police Hospital in El Obeid.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A daily meal for nine days to 60 volunteers and students at the Peace and Development Studies Center, University of Kordofan. • Ingredients for preparing the meal: meat, pasta, oil, meat, spices, sauce, salt, charcoal. • 100 food baskets were distributed to displaced families and from the host community who are most affected and in need. • A full-day session was organized to instill the concepts of community solidarity, peace, coexistence and acceptance of others, and then food baskets were distributed at the end of the session. • Each food basket consists of: a bottle of cooking oil, 2 tablespoons of onions, 2 cans of tomato sauce, 2 kg of rice, 2 kg of beans, and 5 kg of flour.
	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Emergencies in Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment of tuition fees, all or part of them, for 4 female students studying at the Faculty of Education, Kordofan University, who were unable to pay them due to their families' inability to afford the tuition fees. • Notebooks and school books were distributed to 24 male and 26 female students studying in middle and high school.
	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The treatment of three people from the staff of the Peace and Development Studies Center was covered, by performing eye surgeries for an employee, installing a pacemaker for an employee, and

				conducting eye examinations for another employee.
	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 dignity bags were distributed 50 women and girls of reproductive age.
	North Kordofan	Sheikhan El-Obeid	Capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A three-day training was conducted targeting 11 participants from four Takays, including Amir Takya, Peace and Development Studies Center Takay- Kordofan University, Basma Amal Takay, Malazat Takay, and Kordofanian Hoosh Takay. The training included areas such as report writing, monitoring and evaluation, and sensitive and dignity-based documentation. The aim of the workshop was to enhance the capabilities of initiatives and standardize financial and programmatic procedures in terms of how to conduct procurement processes, document expenditures, invoices, receipts, financial clearances, data collection, and report writing.
Ashragt Women CBO	West Kordofan	Al-Fula locality	Shelter and non-food items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 Shelter tarpaulins were purchased and distributed to shelter 50 displaced families in Abu Ismail neighborhood, Al-Fula locality, West Kordofan State.
	West Kordofan	Al-Fula locality	Raising community awareness about the dangers of mines and explosives, environmental awareness, and debris removal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community awareness campaigns to educate the public about the dangers of mines, explosive remnants of war (ERW), and unexploded ordnance (UXO), focusing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoiding touching or approaching unfamiliar objects.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of immediately reporting such objects to the relevant authorities. • Educating children about the dangers of ERW. • Practicing safe behaviors while moving around or removing debris. • Safe disposal of ERW and debris. • Following safety procedures during debris removal. • Avoiding handling unidentified objects within the debris. • Using personal protective equipment (PPE) during cleanup operations.
Darfur Youth Centre for Peace and Development	North Darfur	Tawila	Food security (Takay/ (Community-Based Kitchen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 food baskets were distributed to 25 displaced families in the Dabba Al-Nayra camp, Tawila locality, North Darfur State.
			Shelter and Non-food items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 rugs and blankets were distributed to 25 families in the Dabba Al-Nayra camp, Tawila locality, North Darfur State.

4. Key Challenges

The initiatives encountered multiple operational and contextual challenges:

Economic Challenges

- Rapid inflation and rising fuel prices significantly increased transportation and operational costs.
- Actual implementation costs exceeded planned budgets due to unstable market conditions.

Humanitarian Pressure

- Growing numbers of displaced persons and vulnerable households exceeded the response capacity of community kitchens and aid providers.
- Overcrowding at food distribution sites created tension among beneficiaries and volunteers.



Security Challenges

- Drone strikes and insecurity posed direct threats to humanitarian operations and civilian safety.
- Explosive remnants of war increased risks during movement and debris removal activities.

Infrastructure and Service Gaps

Severe shortages of:

- Drinking water.
- Electricity.
- Cooking coal.

5. Sawdan Campaign: Sovereign Sudanese Solidarity:

The “Sovereign Sudanese Solidarity” campaign seeks to transform Sudan’s humanitarian system by shifting power, funding, and decision-making from international actors to Sudanese local humanitarian organizations between March–December 2026. The campaign argues that local responders are the most effective actors in Sudan’s crisis response but remain marginalized through indirect funding, exclusion from leadership, restrictive policies, unequal risk exposure, and colonial “capacity-building” narratives that maintain foreign control.

Key Outcome

The campaign aims to secure:

- At least two new direct and flexible funding streams for Sudanese local humanitarian actors.
- Binding policy commitments from donors, UN agencies, and INGOs that guarantee local actors’ decision-making power.
- A mandatory 10% indirect cost recovery policy for local organizations.
- Greater inclusion of Sudanese actors in humanitarian coordination and funding decisions.
- Formal commitments to risk-sharing, narrative ownership, and locally led humanitarian action by the end of 2026.

The long-term vision is a majority locally led humanitarian system in Sudan by 2029, where local actors control at least 50% of resources and lead sustainable, community-driven responses.

6. Key Recommendations and Strategic Insights

- Increase immediate humanitarian support by expanding funding for community kitchens, food security programs, shelter assistance, dignity kits, and emergency education services for displaced and vulnerable populations.



- Strengthen the capacity of local community-based organizations through training, technical support, and improved coordination with humanitarian actors to enhance response effectiveness and sustainability.
- Develop safer, conflict-sensitive, and better-organized aid distribution systems to reduce overcrowding, protection risks, and tensions among beneficiaries during humanitarian operations.
- Prioritize integrated humanitarian programming that combines food security, education, health, protection, and peacebuilding interventions to address multiple community needs simultaneously and strengthen resilience.
- Mainstream gender and protection considerations across all interventions by expanding psychosocial support, dignity services, mine risk education, and civilian protection mechanisms, particularly for women, girls, and conflict-affected communities.
- Shift gradually from emergency relief toward long-term recovery and resilience by investing in livelihoods, reconstruction of education and community infrastructure, and sustainable recovery programs that reduce dependency on humanitarian assistance.
- Transform Sudan's humanitarian system into a locally led model by securing direct funding, decision-making power, institutional support, and risk-sharing commitments for Sudanese humanitarian actors, with the long-term goal of local organizations controlling at least 50% of humanitarian resources by 2029.