



The United Nations Human Development Index ranks Sudan in 167th place out of 188 countries. Armed conflicts continue to threaten the country's security and have caused the displacement of over 2 million people. Nearly half of the population lives below the poverty line and 1 in 6 children is estimated to be acutely malnourished.

EMERGENCY began operations in Sudan in 2004, in Al Fashir (North Darfur), rebuilding and equipping the Emergency Surgery Department and Operating Theatre in the city hospital. In 2005, EMERGENCY opened the Paediatric Centre in the Mayo camp, a few kilometres from the capital, Khartoum, to provide free medical care to children up to 14 years of age.

In the same year, EMERGENCY began the construction of a Regional Centre for Cardiac Surgery in Khartoum. Indeed, the need for cardiac surgery is compelling in the region, where rheumatic heart disease remains a major cause of death, despite being preventable and imminently treatable.

In order to reduce morbidity and mortality in the region, EMERGENCY has built a network of paediatric centres in Sudan and in neighbouring countries. These centres work as satellites of EMERGENCY's Centre for Cardiac Surgery and, in addition to the provision of paediatric care, host periodic screening missions aimed at identifying patients in need of cardiac surgery.

Two of these satellite centres were opened in Sudan: the first, opened in July 2010, was located in Nyala (Darfur) and closed following the kidnapping of one of our humanitarian aid workers; the second, opened in December 2011, is in Port Sudan, Red Sea State.



The Mayo camp is estimated to host 500,000 people. More than half the population comprises children under 14 years. Internally displaced persons have flowed into the suburbs of Khartoum to escape poverty and civil war that have characterised the last 20 years of the country's history. Living conditions in the camp are barely above survival levels: infections caused by the lack of clean water, the lack of a sewage system and disastrous hygienic conditions are, together with malnutrition, the main cause of thousands of deaths, especially among children.

EMERGENCY's Paediatric Centre provides free healthcare to children living in the camp. The Centre has a ward with 6 beds for daily observation and an ambulance for urgent transfers to hospitals in the city and the Therapeutic Feeding Centre.



50 children are visited by our staff every day. In order to guarantee a full coverage of maternal and child health needs, the Paediatric Centre also offers an antenatal, postnatal and family planning programme. Patients with suspected heart conditions examined at the Mayo Paediatric Centre and during preventive medicine check-ups are referred to Salam Centre for Cardiac Surgery.

In addition to doctors and nurses, nine Community Health Promoters (CHP) work in the Centre; they promote awareness about the Paediatric Centre's services among the population and provide health and hygiene advice to families.

A preventive medicine program was launched in the area in January 2010. The Centre's personnel organises health education courses, malnutrition screening, monitoring for expectant mothers and, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, immunisation programmes carried out directly in the Mayo camp.



In 2016, thanks to funding from the European Union and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, EMERGENCY furthered the scope of the vaccination and preventative medicine programme for women and children and expanded gynaecological and midwifery services. In addition to the services available at the Centre, EMERGENCY also extended prevention and monitoring activities within the camp. Over 1,000 midwifery and gynaecological consultations were provided through home visits.

The program also sees education activities on health and nutrition carried out in schools in Mayo, in partnership with the local NGO Mujaddidon. More than 4,600 students were reached in 2016 thanks to this activity.

Operational Areas: Paediatrics, preventive medicine, sexual health

Facilities: 2 Paediatric Clinics, Observation ward, Obstetrics clinic, Vaccination room, Pharmacy, Lab, Technical and auxiliary Services, Reception and health education area and Outdoor play area.

Capacity: 6 beds (for the *day hospital*).

International staff: 1 paediatrician, 1 gynaecologist, 1 midwife, 2 paediatric nurses and 1 grant manager.

National staff: 39 - including doctors, nurses and health personnel, *Community Health Promoters* (CHP), administration and ancillary services staff.

From the beginning of activities to December 2016:

Outpatient consultations: **208,584**

Patients hospitalised: **18,290**

Patients referred: **10,718**

Beneficiaries of the preventive medicine program: **41,852**

Antenatal care consultations: **11,494**

From January to December 2016:

Outpatient consultations: **19,311**

Patients hospitalised: **2,319**

Patients referred: **1,319**

Beneficiaries of the preventive medicine program: **4,779**

Antenatal care consultations: **2,425**