

Report

Kadugli's Crisis: A Looming Catastrophe in South Kordofan

Wednesday 30th of July 2025

ERD
Organization
www.erdorganization.org



The Genesis of the Crisis: Conflict and Displacement

The humanitarian catastrophe in Kadugli is intrinsically linked to the protracted and escalating conflict between various armed groups, primarily the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), Rapid Support Forces (RSF), and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N). These hostilities have not only caused direct casualties but have also triggered mass displacement, a critical factor exacerbating the humanitarian needs in the region.

A City Under Siege: The Immediate Impact of Fighting

Kadugli has been under immense pressure, with reports of intense shelling and fierce clashes between warring factions . This relentless violence has effectively placed the city under siege- like conditions. Civilians are caught in the crossfire, with devastating consequences. The indiscriminate nature of the conflict means that public facilities, homes, and even humanitarian compounds have been damaged or directly hit, further crippling any semblance of normal life.

The fighting has forced tens of thousands of residents to flee their homes. More than 50,000 people, including an estimated 30,000 children, have been displaced within Kadugli itself, with many seeking refuge in areas that offer only marginal safety. These displaced communities often find themselves in precarious situations, lacking adequate shelter, sanitation, and protection, making them highly vulnerable to further harm.

Critical Shortages and Famine Warnings

Beyond the immediate violence, the most pressing concern in Kadugli is the severe shortage of essential supplies. The city's vital lifelines have been severed, leading to a desperate struggle for survival for its trapped population.

The Hunger Crisis: Empty Shelves and Rising Malnutrition

Food securityhas plummeted to catastrophic levels.Food stocks in Kadugli are reported to be completely exhausted, and markets are bare. The inability to replenish supplies due to blockades on key routes, such as the road from Dilling to Kadugli, has led to skyrocketing prices for any available goods, making them unaffordable for most. A staggering 96% of displaced families within Kadugli are reportedly unable to meet their basic needs, including food.

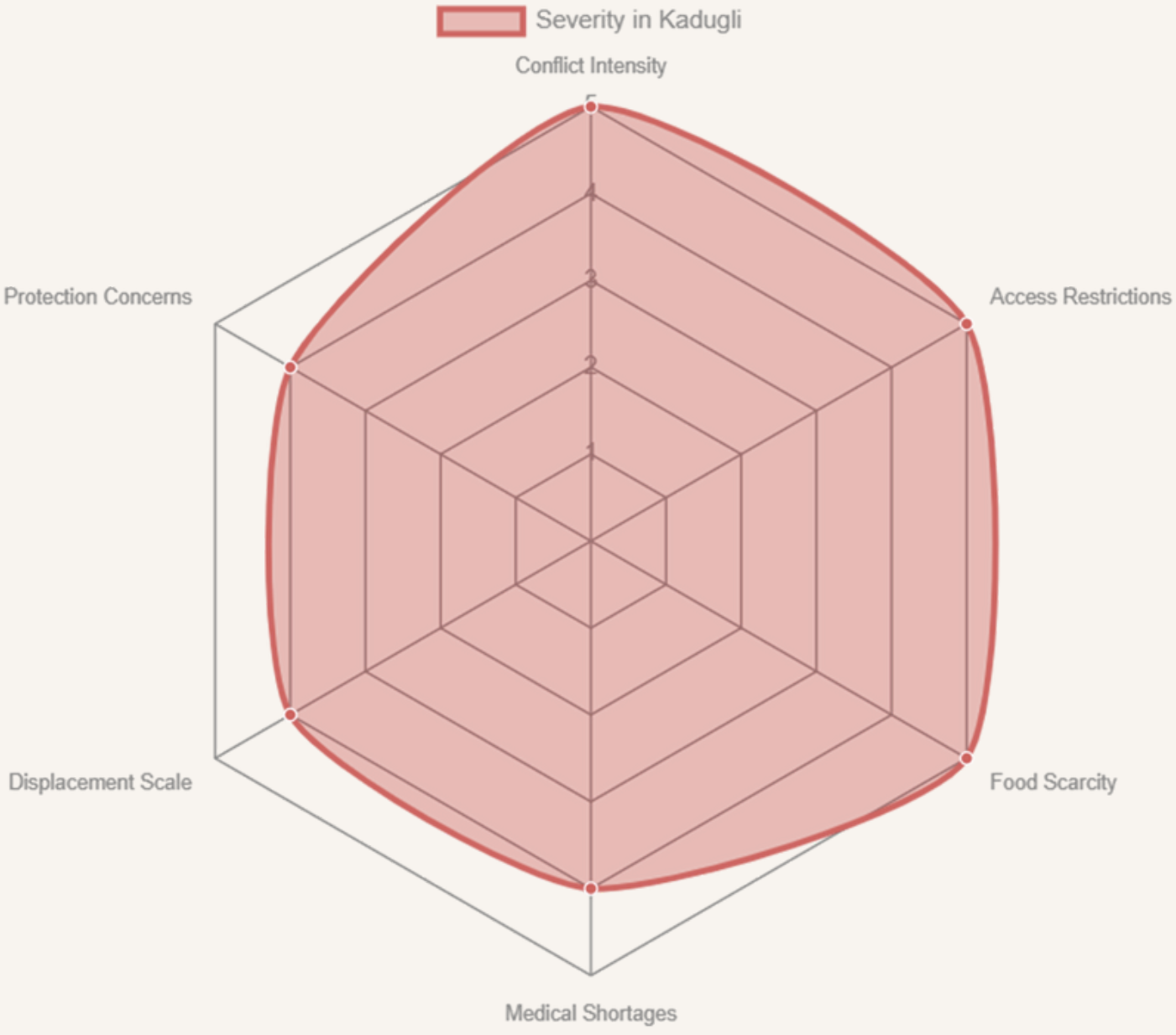
This dire situation has resulted in a rapid increase in malnutrition rates, particularly among children. There have been tragic reports of child deaths due to hunger in displaced persons camps.

A Medical Emergency: Collapsed Healthcare System

The healthcare system in Kadugli has largely collapsed. Medical services are at a standstill due to a severe lack of supplies, including essential medicines like antimalarials and tuberculosis treatments. Hospitals are either overwhelmed, damaged, or inoperable, and those that remain barely functional lack the necessary resources to treat the influx of wounded and sick. Military roadblocks frequently prevent ambulances from reaching those in need, further compounding the crisis for the injured and critically ill.

Comparative Assessment of Key Challenges

To better understand the multifaceted nature of the humanitarian crisis in Kadugli, it is helpful to visualize the severity of different challenges. The following radar chart provides an opinionated analysis of the impact of various factors on the humanitarian situation, ranked on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating the highest severity.



The radar chart illustrates that "Conflict Intensity," "Access Restrictions," and "Food Scarcity" are currently the most severechallenges, each scoringa 5 out of 5. "Medical Shortages," "Displacement Scale," and "Protection Concerns" also pose significant challenges, indicating a dire overall situation across multiple humanitarian sectors.

Conclusion

The humanitarian condition in Kadugli, South Kordofan, is nothing short of catastrophic. The confluence of relentless conflict, widespread displacement, crippling shortages of essential resources, and persistent denial of humanitarian access has created a dire situation for its civilian population. Urgent, concerted, and sustained international action is imperative to alleviate the profound suffering, prevent further loss of life, and ensure that basic human dignity is upheld in this beleaguered region. Without shift in the conflict dynamics and a dedicated commitment to humanitarian principles, Kadugli stands on the precipice of an even deeper catastrophe.

ERD Organization renew the appeal to humanitarians actors to stand for South Kordofan