

# Beyond the Conflict: Charting a Path to Sustainable Growth and Development in Sudan

Cost of the Conflict



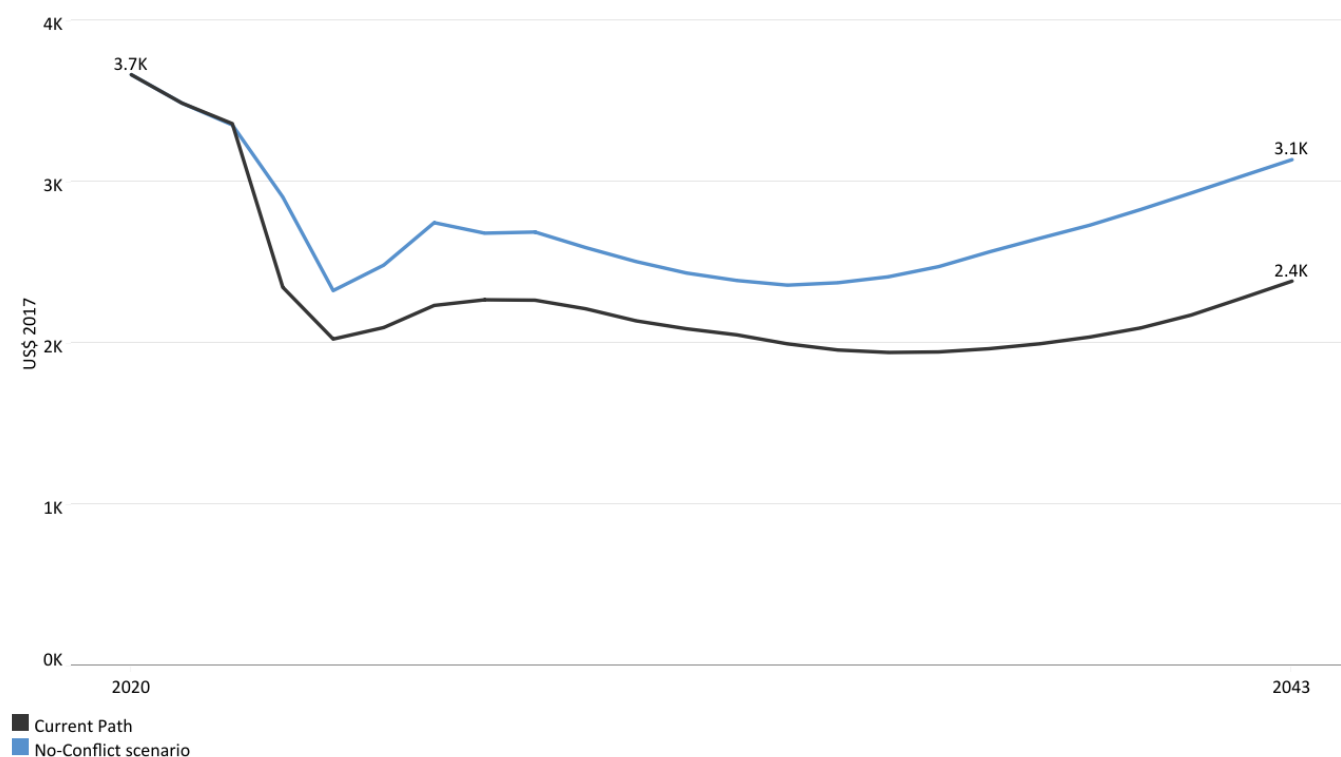
## Cost of the Conflict

This final section examines the impact of the war on the economy and poverty reduction, using two scenarios. The first is the No-Conflict scenario, which takes a retrospective view of what the development prospects would have been if the 2023 conflict had not occurred. To do this, the Current Path (adjusted for the impact of the conflict) is compared with Sudan's development prospects before the conflict (based on the IMF growth projection). The second step was to examine the impact of a protracted conflict in Sudan through 2030, with a delayed economic recovery.

### No-Conflict scenario

In 2023, Sudan's GDP in the No-Conflict scenario was estimated at US\$32.4 billion. Compared with the Current Path, the economic losses from the conflict in 2023 alone totalled US\$6.4 billion. This translates into a GDP per capita loss (in PPP) of about US\$500, reflecting a significant deterioration in the standard of living for the Sudanese population. By 2043, Sudan's GDP under the No-Conflict scenario would have reached US\$57.6 billion. This represents an estimated GDP loss of about US\$18.8 billion by 2043, equivalent to a per capita income loss of about US\$752.

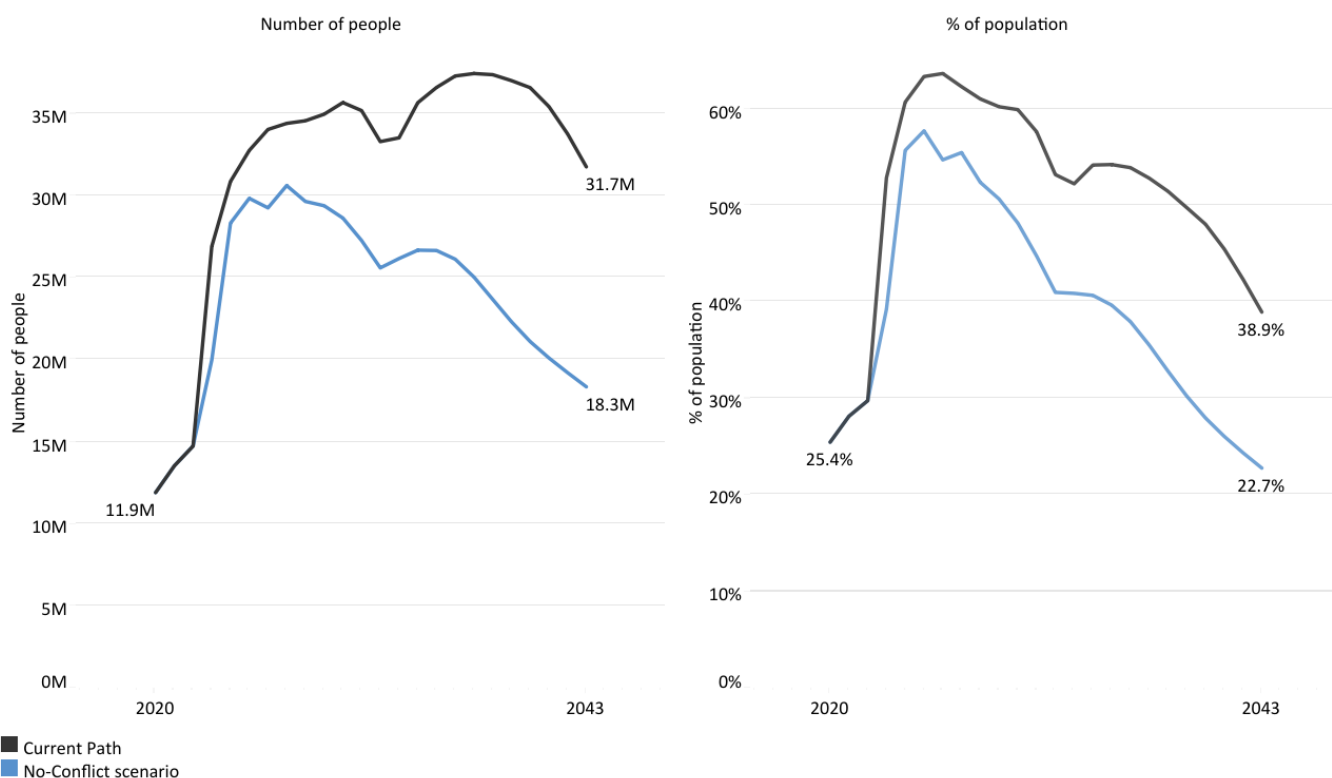
Chart 42: GDP per capita (PPP) in the Current Path and No-Conflict scenario, 2023-2043



Source: IFs 8.38 initialising from IMF data

The conflict has also severely undermined progress in poverty reduction. In the No-Conflict scenario, around 20 million Sudanese (representing 39.2% of the population) would have lived below the international poverty line of US\$2.15 per day in 2023. Comparing this to the Current Path means that almost 6.9 million more Sudanese were pushed into extreme poverty in 2023 alone due to the conflict. By 2043, this would have worsened such that nearly 13.4 million additional Sudanese would have been pushed into extreme poverty in the Current Path due to the conflict compared to the No-Conflict scenario.

Chart 43: Poverty in the Current Path and No-Conflict scenario, 2020-2043

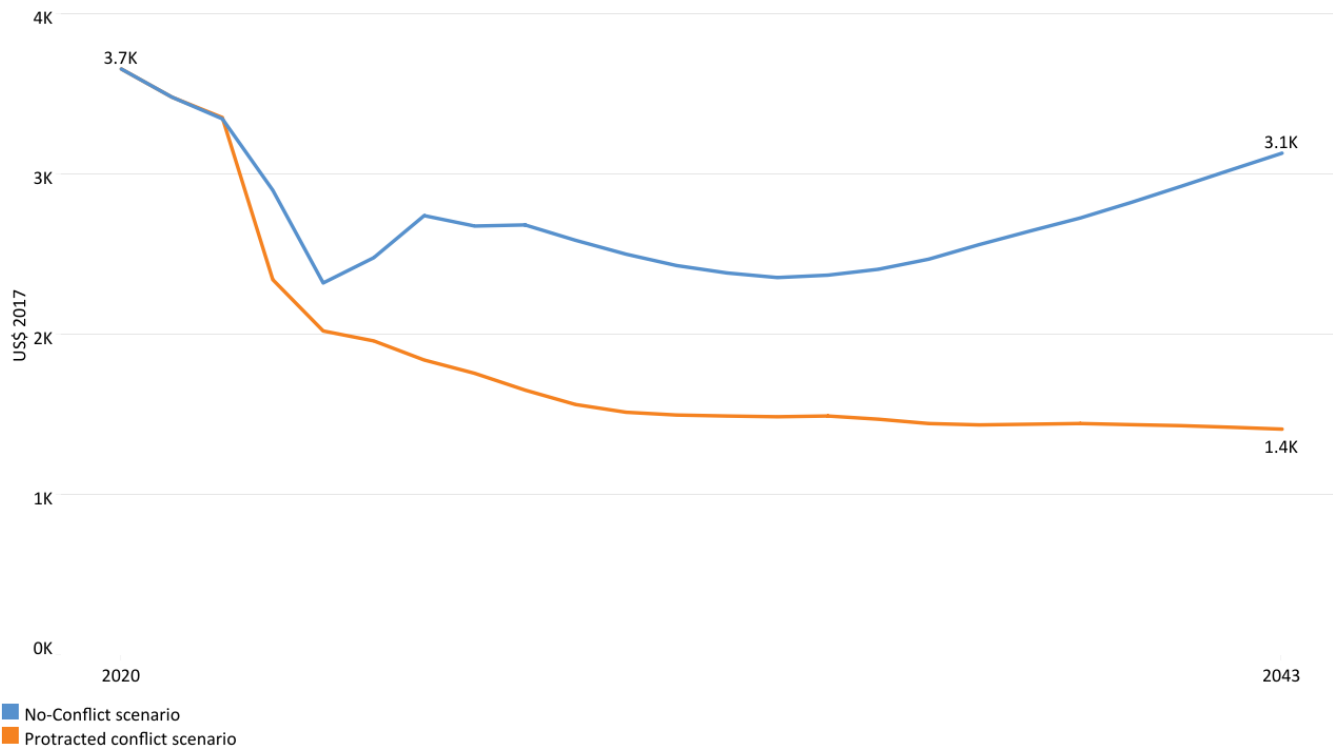


Source: IFs 8.38 initialising from IMF data

### Protracted conflict

In the Protracted Conflict scenario, Sudan’s GDP is projected to fall to US\$23.1 billion in 2043, representing a loss of US\$34.5 billion relative to the No-Conflict scenario. This corresponds to a GDP per capita loss of US\$1 725 in 2043, underscoring the devastating economic toll of prolonged conflict.

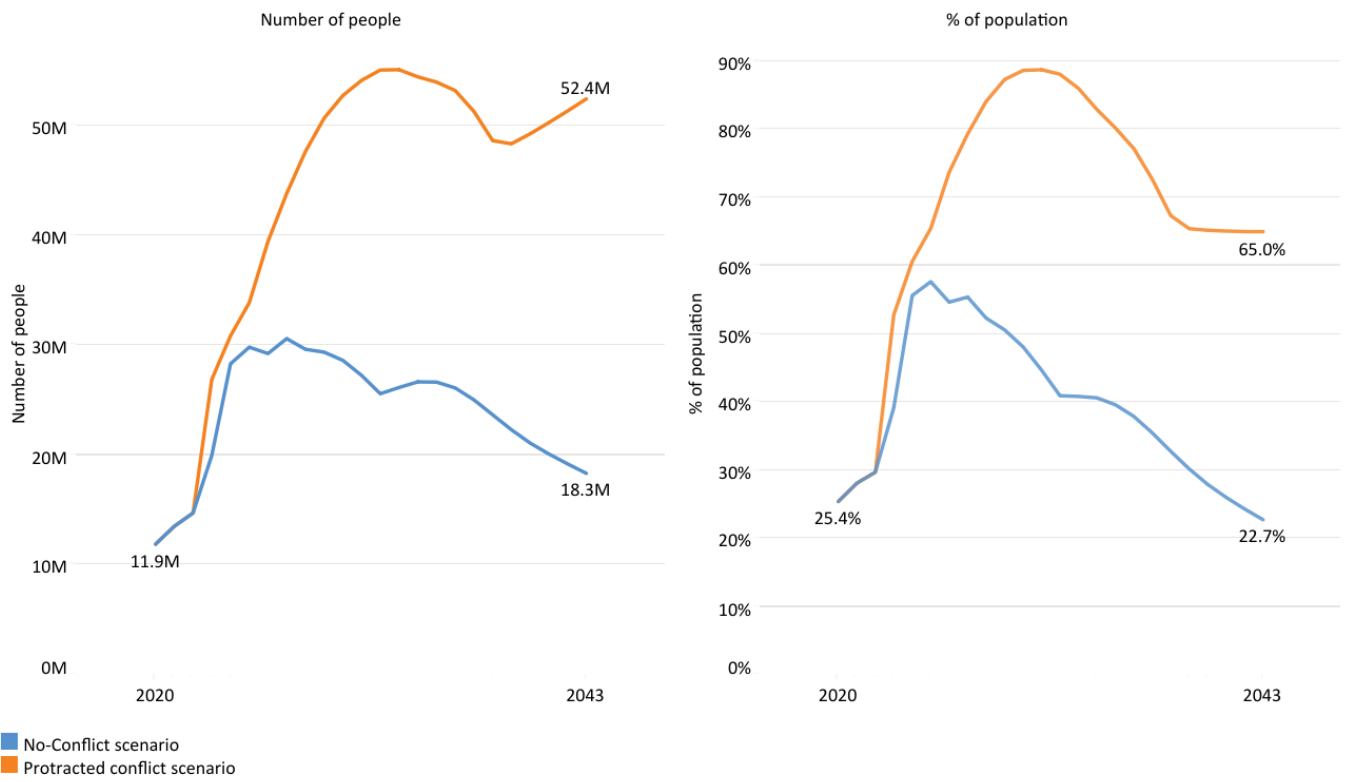
Chart 44: GDP per capita (PPP) in the No-Conflict and Protracted Conflict scenario, 2023-2043



Source: IFs 8.38 initialising from IMF data

The consequences of poverty are severe. About 52.4 million Sudanese (equivalent to 63.3% of the population) will live below the extreme poverty line of US\$2.15 in the Protracted Conflict scenario by 2043. This translates into 34.1 million more people living in extreme poverty compared to the No-Conflict scenario. If the current conflict persists, almost 34 million additional Sudanese risk falling into extreme poverty by 2043. Thus, without peace and recovery efforts, the war will continue to erode livelihoods, reverse development gains and entrench poverty for millions.

Chart 45: Poverty in the No-Conflict and Protracted Conflict scenario, 2020-2043



Source: IFs 8.38 initialising from IMF data

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## About the authors

Mr Enoch Randy Aikins joined the AFI in May 2021 as a Researcher. Before that, Enoch was a research and programmes officer at the Institute for Democratic Governance in Accra in charge of local governance reforms, poverty and inequality and public sector reforms. He also worked as a research assistant (economic division) with the Institute for Statistical Social and Economic Research at the University of Ghana. Enoch's interests include African politics and governance, economic development, public sector reform, poverty and inequality. Enoch is a Young African Fellow at the School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute in Florence and has an MPhil in economics from the University of Ghana, Legon.

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