

South Sudanese Influx Into East Darfur

FACT SHEET

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KEY FACTS

- Beginning in late January 2016, there was a surge of South Sudanese fleeing into Sudan, with about 500 households arriving per day until early April. New arrivals have since continued at a slower rate, and as of 11 June about 47,100 refugees had arrived in East Darfur, of whom 29,515 are in Khor Omer camp, Ed Daein locality. This includes 28,595 people verified by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and 920 new arrivals reported by the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS).
- New arrivals are mostly coming from South Sudan's Northern Bahr El Ghazal and Warrap states due to heightened food insecurity and ongoing conflict. While the rate of new arrivals has slowed to about 60 people per day since 8 May, the situation remains fragile and food security assessments suggest that South Sudan will face a more severe lean season (May-September) in 2016 than in previous years. The World Food Programme (WFP) has recently reported the distribution of 2-month food rations to 200,000 individuals and cash assistance for an additional 55,000 individuals in Northern Bahr El Ghazal, where previous assistance was scarce.
- The humanitarian situation in East Darfur's Khor Omer camp has improved since the initial influx, but remains critical. Basic humanitarian assistance across all major life-saving sectors has been provided, including food, emergency household supplies, water, sanitation and nutritional support.
- Distribution of shelters will begin once families are relocated to a new site, where erection of shelters will be permitted. The plot of land previously agreed upon for the new site can no longer be used as local land owners require the area for agricultural activities. The government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) in collaboration with state authorities is working to secure another option, after which arrangements will be put in place for an organised relocation to the new site.
- An additional 17,390 refugees are in seven other localities in East Darfur, according to SRCS. The first inter-agency mission to access some of these areas was conducted on 10 and 11 May, visiting Abu Jabra, Bahr El Arab and El Ferdous localities. However, no follow-up missions have yet been permitted. Refugees in these areas have received no humanitarian assistance to date and depend heavily on support from the host communities.

South Sudanese refugee arrivals in East Darfur from the end of January to 11 June 2016

Locality	Location	Number of arrivals	Source
Ed Daein	Khor Omer	29,515	28,595 (verified by IOM), 920 (reported by SRCS)
Adila	Different villages (Adila)	6,042	HAC
Abu Jabra	Abu Jabra	6,193	I-A rapid assessment on 10-11 May
Assalaya	Assalaya	2,531	HAC
Abu Karinka	Different villages (Abu Karinka)	1,340	SRCS
Bahr El Arab	Abu Matariq	800	I-A rapid assessment on 10-11 May
Yassin	Muhajiria (Yassin)	602	HAC
El Ferdous	El Ferdous	75	I-A rapid assessment on 10-11 May
Total		47,098	

KEY MESSAGES

- This recent influx, with large numbers of South Sudanese refugees arriving in new areas, was not anticipated. This unforeseen emergency is unfolding in an underserved area where partners and resources are limited.
- This influx is critically stretching the available resources and operational capacity of partners carrying out the ongoing response in White Nile State, where the flow of new arrivals from South Sudan continues. Additional funds are needed in order to meet the needs of this refugee population.
- The South Sudan emergency, now well into its third year, will continue unless peace can be maintained in South Sudan. Ongoing violence remains at the heart of the displacements into Sudan and neighbouring countries, while a prolonged dry spell in Northern Bahr El Ghazal and Warrap states has aggravated food insecurity. Fighting continues to disrupt critical farming practices, trade and the delivery of aid, driving up food prices and forcing people to flee their homes in search of food and safety.
- Clarity is still needed regarding the status of South Sudanese in Sudan, particularly to ensure the validity of the ID cards provided to South Sudanese by the Sudanese Directorate of Passports and Immigration (IPP).
- Funding shortages continue to threaten the provision of life-saving services to new arrivals, as well as previous South Sudanese refugee arrivals who remain in need of critical assistance and protection. Sudan's requirements for the 2016 South Sudan Regional Refugee Response Plan—launched by humanitarian partners on 7 December 2015—is only 13 per cent funded. The actual gap in funding is much greater however, as these figures do not reflect the significant increase in resources necessitated by the new influx.

Current Situation

The influx of South Sudanese refugees that began in late January 2016 continues, driven by deteriorating food insecurity and ongoing violence in South Sudan. Though rates of arrival have slowed in comparison to the January to April period, underlying reasons for displacement remain unchanged. A recent food security analysis by WFP expects the number of South Sudan's food insecure people to reach 5.3 million between May and September, which would result in the nation's most severe lean season since independence in 2011. As such, provision of assistance in affected areas of South Sudan will be integral to reducing the number of people who are driven from their homes in search of life-saving assistance in Sudan. WFP has recently reported distribution of 2-month food rations to 200,000 individuals in Northern Bahr El Ghazal, and cash assistance for an additional 55,000 individuals.

As of 11 June 2016, about 47,100 refugees have arrived in East Darfur, of whom 29,515 (28,595 verified by IOM; 920 new arrivals reported by SRCS) are in Khor Omer camp, Ed Daein locality. IOM has conducted three rounds of verification in Khor Omer. Six temporary tracking hubs have been established outside Ed Daein at entry points of Abu Jabra, Assalaya, Abu Matariq and El Ferdous localities. Relief items, including food, nutrition and emergency household supplies have been provided to almost all new arrivals in Khor Omer and personal hygiene kits distributed to nearly all pregnant and lactating women (PLW). The current availability of water has increased to 5 litres per person per day from 3 litres the previous month, and there is no visible overcrowding in water points during the day. Sanitation remains of concern due to limited space to construct additional latrines in the current location. A 9-day measles vaccination campaign has reached 3,145 individuals. The health sector is working to reach the remaining 73% of the population. The supply of medicines is reportedly adequate, however there is a gap in oral antibiotics. Some refugees are reportedly leaving the camp during the day in search of labour in Ed Daein town and the neighboring villages, as the cultivation period is ongoing.

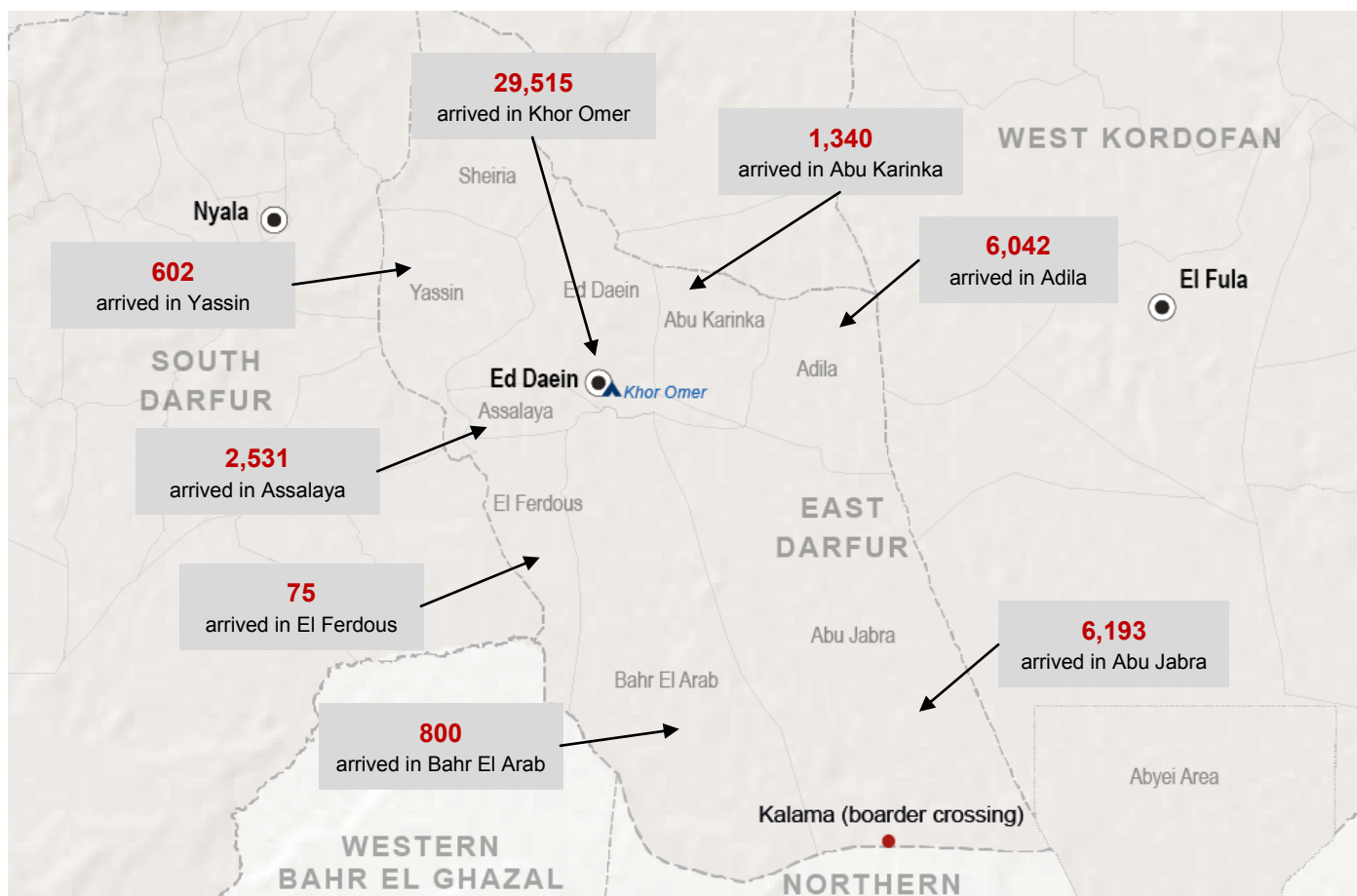
Most of the arrivals are still staying in the open, under trees or in makeshift shelters, with only plastic sheeting distributed by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) for protection. Emergency shelter materials are being procured and transported, however, distribution will only be allowed once refugees have been relocated from Khor Omer to a new site. Negotiations are ongoing with state authorities and land owners to secure a suitable plot of land. It is no longer possible to use the previously selected land as the owners need the area for agricultural purposes. Funds are being sought through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) for the development of the new site, which will enable partners to scale up response efforts to fill critical gaps, namely unmet water, sanitation and shelter needs.

An additional 17,390 refugees are in seven other localities in East Darfur, according to SRCS. The first inter-agency mission to access some of these areas was conducted on 10 and 11 May, visiting Abu Jabra, Bahr El Arab and El Ferdous localities. Refugees in these areas have received no humanitarian assistance to date and depend heavily on support from the host communities, who themselves are struggling following the failure of the last agricultural season. The assessment report indicates that 7,068 refugees residing in these areas – a majority in Abu Jabra – require emergency assistance across all major sectors, notably food assistance; medical supplies and support to health services; expansion of nutrition programmes; increased access to water and sanitation; and protection support for vulnerable groups.

THE RESPONSE

Note: This table represents an aggregation of humanitarian assistance provided as of 7 June 2016

Sector	Target response	Actual response to date in Khor Omer
FSL	1-month emergency food ration	1-month emergency food ration provided to 28,428 people (98% coverage).
ES & NFIs	1 shelter per family 1 NFI kit per family	Since 24 April 6,000 families have received NFIs (85% coverage). No ES distributed yet. Lack of space is hampering further assistance efforts in Khor Omer, including distribution of shelter materials and construction of water and sanitation facilities.
WASH	Water: 7.5 litres/person/day (l/p/d)	5 l/p/d currently available, a slight increase compared to 2 weeks ago. Water supply is adequate as there is no visible overcrowding at water points and most of the time the water bladders are full. It is likely that the South Sudanese leave the camp during the day in search of labour . 8,350 jerry cans have been distributed, covering 74% of the needs.
	Hygiene: 1 hygiene promoter (HP) per 500 individuals	1 HP for 684 people (88% gap). Vector control and solid waste management campaign ongoing.
	Sanitation: 1 latrine per 50 individuals	560 emergency latrines are required, with 50 persons per latrine (for 28,000 people). So far, 45 emergency communal latrines have been constructed by ASSIST and SMoH (covering 8% of the needs). Additional latrines cannot be constructed due to a lack of space. Plans to put up latrines adequate for the population have been put on hold pending relocation to the new site. SRCS and UMCOR received funding to construct latrines in the new site.
Health	1 health unit available per 10,000 individuals	WHO supported SMoH with essential drugs and medical supplies through provision of one emergency health kit and 2 diarrheal disease kits. There are adequate supplies apart from oral antibiotics.
	2 health centres available per 50,000 individuals	Three vaccination campaigns reached 3,145 people, however, there is still a gap equal to 73% (8,356 individuals); 1 clinic operational (50% gap)
	1 BEmNOC per 125,000 individuals	Resources are available to open a second clinic as soon a new site is identified and the refugees relocated. Basic emergency obstetric/newborn care ongoing (66% gap).
	Medical supplies as per SMoH standard list for PHC services	
Nutrition	>90% coverage of expected caseload in a month	MUAC screening is ongoing and so far 7,946 children under five have been cumulatively reached (73% of the total). Due to shortage in plumpy sup
	>70% e-blanket supplementary food (e-BSF) coverage of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children <5	under the Emergency Blanket Supplementary Food Programme (BSFP), WFP only managed to provide 372 children with 15 days ration. BP5 supplies are adequate with no gaps reported.
	>90% of beneficiaries are accessing treatment	Health education training sessions were conducted targeting close to 6,900 mothers.
Protection	Registration of UASC, family tracing and reunification	350 Personal Hygiene Kits distributed to PLW (97%). Counselling and awareness raising sessions on child protection and human rights for 3,885
	PSNs identified and responded to; Safety of displaced monitored, GBV survivors reached and assisted	refugees were held (current gap 82% of 21,885 people in need). 5 child friendly spaces (CFS) providing psychosocial support for children and adolescents. Family Tracing and Reunification of 97 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC).
Education	Access to temporary safe learning spaces	4 recreation kits had been provided to start child-friendly learning spaces (CFS). Construction of 5 temporary CFS is ongoing out of 130 planned to meet the education need of the refugees. 15 school latrines and WASH facilities have been constructed, covering 9% of the total need.
Refugee tracking	Verification of registered data within 2 weeks after first registration, including disaggregation by age, sex and vulnerable groups	Verification exercise conducted in Khor Omer by IOM is ongoing, with 28,595 people verified so far.



Operating Environment and Coordination

The Government of Sudan has been actively involved in the response in East Darfur, cooperating with UN agencies and international partners in the area to provide basic assistance, including health, nutrition, education, food and livelihoods as well as the ongoing registration of new refugee arrivals. A state-wide coordination mechanism put in place by the East Darfur government organises regular meetings to oversee response across all Sectors.

Partners have maintained access to Khor Omer camp and assessment missions have taken place, including a joint mission between UNHCR and the Ministry of Health in mid-April as well as a joint mission by the Commissioner for Refugees (COR), SRCS and UNHCR in late April. Following repeated efforts, a joint assessment mission to the other areas of arrival was permitted to take place in early May, visiting Abu Jabra, Bahr El Arab and El Ferdous localities. Follow-up missions to these three locations by IOM and WFP have, however, been unsuccessful and as such no verification exercises have been conducted in areas outside Ed Daein. A request by WFP to conduct a Food Security Assessment of South Sudanese in Adila and Abu Jabra was denied.

Insecurity in East Darfur, due to inter-tribal conflict and localized violence, continues to limit the activities of partners and the extent of response throughout the state, in particular in the areas outside of Ed Daein locality where many new arrivals are scattered.

In close coordination with the relevant authorities at federal, state and local levels, UNHCR will continue to coordinate the overall humanitarian response for the ongoing new arrivals. In East Darfur, coordination efforts are being undertaken by OCHA through existing inter-sector coordination structures and in line with the overall vision of the Sudan Refugee Response Strategy. UNHCR currently has staff on the ground in Ed Daein to reinforce these efforts and has initiated the procedure for opening a field office in Ed Daein.