Humanitarian Bulletin
Sudan

Issue 32 | 4 – 10 August 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 126,000 people are estimated to have been affected by heavy rains and floods in Sudan, according to HAC and SRCS.
- Heavy rains and flooding have also affected thousands of displaced people in the camps in West, North and Central Darfur, according to HAC and other aid agencies.
- SKBNCU reports that 31,500 people were displaced in Rashad locality in South Kordofan since December 2013.
- FEWS NET reports that there are 5.3 million food insecure people, or almost every seventh person in Sudan.

FIGURES

People in need of humanitarian aid in Sudan	6.9 million
IDPs in Darfur in 2013 in 2014 (to date)	 2 million 400,000
GAM caseload	1.4 million
Refugees in Sudan (UNHCR)	157,000
South Sudanese refugees in Sudan (UNHCR)	90,271

FUNDING

988 million
requested in 2014 (US$)

46.6 %
reported funding

A house damaged by rains in Hamediya IDP camp, Central Darfur (UN)

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Over 126,000 people affected by rains and floods

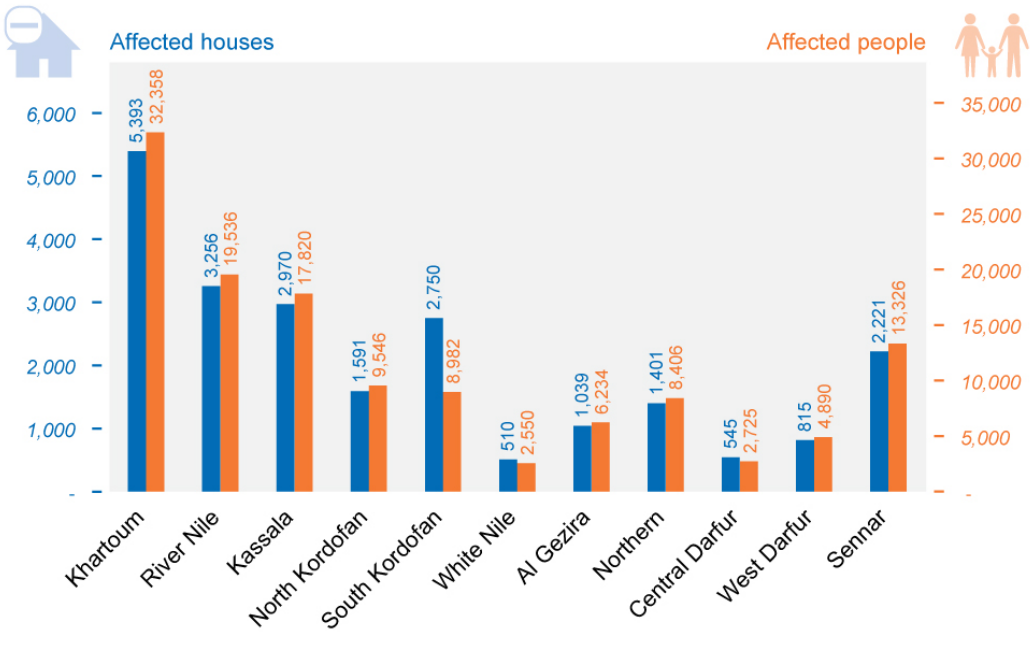
Heavy rains and subsequent flooding since late July have affected thousands of people and caused significant property damage across Sudan. According to the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), the rains and flooding have also killed 14 people and injured another 80. Earlier media reports quoted the Sudanese Minister of the Interior saying that 39 people across the country died due to flooding.

SRCS and the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) estimate that as of 10 August the total number of people affected stands at over 126,000, with rain and floods destroying 12,600 homes and damaging another 10,000 homes.

SRCS reports that the hardest-hit states are Khartoum and River Nile. The severity of the rains and floods this year are similar to those experienced in 2013. By 13 August 2013, the number of people affected by floods was 147,000 and the number of houses destroyed/damaged stood at 26,000. Overall, about 300,000 people were affected by floods in August-September 2013, according to aid organisations.

Meanwhile, the Sudanese Meteorological Authority and the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources announced that it expects more floods, as rains continue and the Nile River has reached critical flooding levels. The Meteorological Authority expects the rainy season to peak in mid-August.

Number of people affected and houses damaged/destroyed by state



Sources: SRCS, HAC, local authorities

Thousands of IDPs affected by floods in West, North and Central Darfur

Heavy rains and flooding have also affected thousands of IDPs in camps in West, North and Central Darfur, according to HAC and other aid agencies

Nearly four days of continuous rainfall over the past week in West Darfur has affected thousands of people, including those who have been living in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs). Preliminary reports received from HAC estimate that flooding could have affected some 5,300 people in nine IDPs camps around El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur. A verification and assessment of those affected by floods is ongoing.

A house destroyed by rains in Hamediya IDP camp, Central Darfur (UN)

In North Darfur, flooding and heavy rain affected an estimated 300 newly displaced people near the Korma team site of the African Union – United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) last week according to the national NGO ZULFA. ZULFA supported the relocation of all 300 displaced people to higher land close to the team site. An estimated 9,000 newly displaced people in Zamzam IDP camp were relocated from the camp's wadi (seasonal riverbed) to higher ground prior to the arrival of the rains, according to a recent inter-agency mission.

There has been very heavy rain in Zalingei, Central Darfur, and other rural localities over the past week. It has been reported that continuous heavy rains over the weekend caused significant destruction and damage in Hamediya, Al Salam, Hassahisa, Khamsa Dagaig and Tayiba IDP camps. The community leaders in these camps are preparing lists of affected families, which will be verified by humanitarian organisations in the coming days.

Flood response and coordination

While aid agencies are providing initial relief aid to the affected people, including food and non-food relief items, SRCS reports that critical needs remain in terms of emergency shelter, emergency household items and the drainage of stagnant water. SRCS reports that it has mobilised 1,100 volunteers in flood-affected states and distributed 1,000 tents and over 23,000 miscellaneous emergency household items, including tarpaulins, blankets, kitchen sets and mosquito nets, to an estimated 17,500 flood-affected people.

The Floods Task Force, chaired by HAC, is being held on a regular basis to respond to the needs of the people affected by rains and floods.

SRCS reports that it has distributed 1,000 tents and over 23,000 non-food relief items to flood-affected people

HAC and the Commission for Voluntary Humanitarian Work (CVHW) are working to facilitate access for international humanitarian organisations to jointly assess needs in Khartoum State.

The Flood Steering Committee, comprised of HAC, SRCS, Civil Defence, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and OCHA, was also formed as a small advisory group to support the Flood Task Force Forum in implementing recommendations. This committee was formed following lessons learned from the 2013 floods.

Dire humanitarian situation in SPLM-N areas – SKBNCU July 2014 update

International humanitarian agencies have had extremely limited or no access to thousands of people in parts of South Kordofan and Blue Nile states controlled by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N) since the fighting erupted between the Government security forces and SPLM-N in May 2011.

SKBNCU reports that 31,500 people have been displaced in Rashad locality in South Kordofan since December 2013

Over 31,500 people displaced in Rashad locality, South Kordofan since late 2013

Displaced people on the move in South Kordofan (SRRA)

The South Kordofan and Blue Nile Coordination Unit (SKBNCU), an informal, locally-led unit to support effective humanitarian assistance to the conflict-affected civilians in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States, issued its July 2014 update. The SKBNCU reports that between December 2013 and July 2014 an estimated 31,500 people were displaced within Rashad locality in South Kordofan by violence between Government forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement - North (SPLM-N). During this period, over 11,000 people from Rashad fled to SPLM-N controlled areas in Al Abassiya locality, joining a vulnerable host community of an estimated 60,000 people.

Lack of medical supplies and limited health services

SKBNCU reports that due to a lack of access to essential medicines people in particularly isolated parts of Rashad and Al Abassiya localities in South Kordofan have to resort to the use of natural or traditional herbal remedies. In July, the most prevalent diseases reported in these two localities were respiratory infections, rheumatism (especially amongst those living in caves), urinary tract problems and skin diseases resulting from poor hygiene. Outbreaks of measles and, to a lesser extent of meningitis, were also reported. Some 57 cases of measles were reported in July and all but eight of these cases were children under five years old. Local health authorities began a vaccination campaign targeting 16,000 children under five years old in Heiban, Dalami, Um Dorein and Buram localities. Due to the damaged Buram – Kadugli Bridge, many children in parts of Kadugli locality could not be reached by the vaccination campaign.

In Blue Nile, many areas still have no access to health care. Only 12 of the 21 medical clinics in SPLM-N controlled areas in Blue Nile were functioning in July, and these were only partially functional as volunteer staff have sporadic access to limited medicines and equipment.

SKBNCU reports that people in SPLM-N areas do not have access to clean drinking water and continue to drink from streams and other rainwater sources. Water diseases are increasing in Blue Nile as IDPs, returnees, and host communities rely primarily on streams and rivers to obtain water for drinking and cooking.

Food insecurity is a major concern in SPLM-N areas as the lean season is on, with 80 per cent of people in Rashad locality surviving on wild foods, according to SKBNCU

Major concerns over food insecurity in SPLM-N areas

According to SKBNCU, the food security situation in Rashad locality in South Kordofan has deteriorated significantly, with 80 per cent of people reportedly relying on wild foods. SKBNCU reports that even Rashad, Dalami, Um Dorein, and Heiban, localities that typically have the most reliable food production, will not have adequate crop production this year because of aerial bombardment and ground fighting. July and August are crucial cultivation periods to ensure food availability for the12-month period from October 2014 onwards.

In Blue Nile, serious food security challenges are expected from September onwards due to insufficient rains in recent weeks, said SKBNCU. Locust presence is another threat, and in some parts of Yabus locality people are already consuming the earliest green maize crop in order to cope with food shortages. Meanwhile, food prices remain very high at the food markets functioning in SPLM-N areas, especially for goods coming from Ethiopia due to transportation difficulties during the rainy season.

FEWS NET: 5.3 million Sudanese food insecure

FEWS NET reports that there are 5.3 million food insecure people or almost every seventh person in Sudan

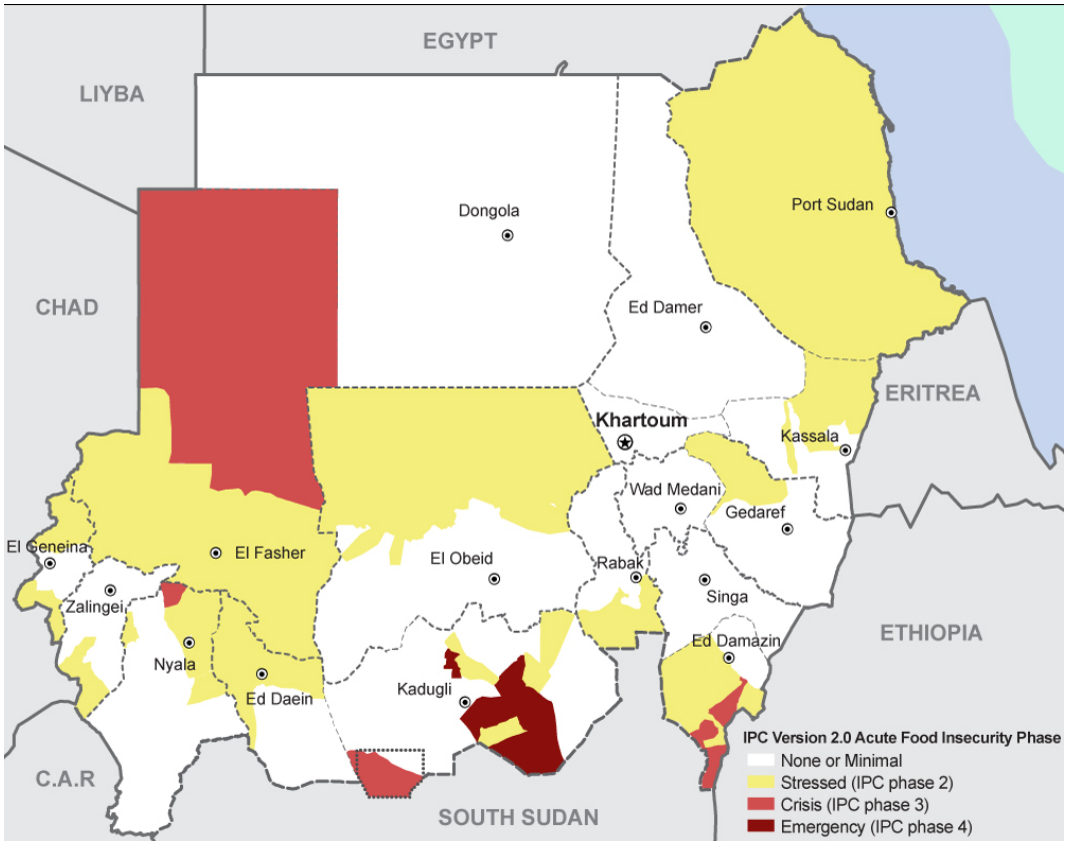
According to the Famine Early Warning Network (FEWS NET) Outlook Report for July 2014 to December 2014, as of July 2014 an estimated 5.3 million people in Sudan face Stressed (IPC Phase 2), Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of acute food insecurity. This means that every seventh person in Sudan is food insecure.

Sudan's food insecurity has increased by 18 percent since the beginning of lean season in April 2014, FEWS NET said. Below-average 2013/14 production has substantially reduced household food stocks and supplies to markets, causing the continued rise of staple food prices in nearly all markets to record high levels.

FEWS NET reports that close to 70 per cent of the current food insecure population is in areas affected by conflict in Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei. Food security outcomes are worse among displaced people in SPLM-N controlled areas of South Kordofan, where local populations are experiencing Emergency (IPC Phase 4) levels of food insecurity. Displaced people in SPLM-N-controlled areas of Blue Nile, newly displaced people in Darfur and West Kordofan, returnees/refugees in Abyei, and South Sudanese refugees in White Nile, South Kordofan and West Kordofan states are currently experiencing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) levels of food insecurity.

The Food Security and Livelihoods Sector (FSL) partners in Sudan are working to restore and improve food and livelihoods security of vulnerable households in Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Abyei, and eastern Sudan. FSL partners are supporting 5.7 million people across Sudan to improve their crop production capacity to meet their food needs. Humanitarian organisations in Sudan have been unable to access vulnerable people in SPLM-N areas and provide them with vital assistance.

Current food security outcomes in Sudan, July 2014



Source: FEWS NET