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HIGHLIGHTS

- A campaign to vaccinate almost 8 million children against measles in Sudan has started, according to UNICEF.
- HAC says that nearly all people who fled their homes in Habila, South Kordofan have returned.
- Since February 2015, about 16,300 newly displaced people arrived in Guldo town, Central Darfur, of whom only 4,300 people (26 per cent) have received some form of aid, HAC says.
- HAC West Darfur requests support to facilitate the return of an estimated 3,500 IDPs in Forobaranga locality.

FIGURES

Displaced people in Sudan	3.1 million
IDPs in Darfur (to date)	2.5 million
GAM burden	2 million
Refugees in Sudan (excluding S. Sudanese) (UNHCR)	168,000
South Sudanese refugees in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (UNHCR)	130,536

FUNDING

1.04 billion
requested in 2015 (US\$)

5%
reported funding



Measles vaccination in Sudan in 2013 (WHO)

Measles immunisation campaign for 8 million children begins

Following an outbreak of measles, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) has ordered 9.6 million doses of measles vaccine to support a Government mass immunisation campaign for 7.9 million children across Sudan. The campaign began after the arrival of the first two million doses last week.

The Ministry of Health (MoH), the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF said that 1,700 cases of measles were confirmed in 13 states of Sudan. This is an increase of almost 600 cases compared to last week. According to WHO, 431 cases of measles were confirmed in 2014, while in 2013 the number of confirmed cases was 2,811. WHO reported that in 2013 the national measles immunisation coverage for children below the age of one was 85 per cent.

Many experts indicate that in order to boost a child's immunity there needs to be another dose of vaccine administered at the age of five, which should provide 99 per cent protection from measles. However, an estimated 3-5 per cent of children who have been vaccinated can still contract measles, as their immune systems do not respond to the vaccine, experts say. In the case of the most recent outbreak, UNICEF reported that in Darfur the outbreak was first reported amongst adult gold mine workers.

According to MoH, WHO and UNICEF, 3,015 suspected measles cases have been reported from 31 localities in 14 states of Sudan. The number of hospitalised cases is 1,200, including severe and complicated cases. The Darfur region accounts for about 60 per cent of measles deaths in Sudan.

MoH with support from WHO, UNICEF and health partners is leading the measles outbreak response. An outbreak response measles vaccination campaign was conducted in 11 localities of Gedaref and Kassala from 19 to 23 January 2015. The second campaign targeting 22 localities is planned and all logistics arrangements are being made.

HAC says almost all people displaced from South Kordofan's Habila town have returned

According to the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), 98 per cent of the 13,000 people who fled South Kordofan's Habila town have returned to their homes. People fled Habila town on 28 March due to fighting between government forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N). According to HAC, they took refuge in Tukma and Dilling town in Dilling locality, as well as the towns of Zalataya, Kurtala and Samasim in Habila locality and Al Bugulti town in Al Qoz locality.

The Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS) and the national NGO Mubadiroon visited Habila to assess the needs of the returnees. According to the assessment findings, more than 300 homes were burned down, affecting some 2,240 people. An additional 5,500 people reportedly lost all their food supplies and livestock, which were either looted, burned or destroyed.

The Government has sent 10.8 tonnes of food to Habila, but affected people have yet to receive emergency shelter or household supplies. SRCS sent medical teams from El Obeid to Habila town to support health services. The main water source in the town is has been polluted by animals and nine of the town's 20 hand pumps require rehabilitation.

Over 16,300 IDPs in Guldo town, Central Darfur

Since February 2015, about 16,300 newly displaced people arrived in Guldo town, Central Darfur, of whom only 4,300 people (26 per cent) have received some form of aid, HAC says

A new wave of an estimated 6,000 displaced people have taken refuge in Guldo town, Central Darfur State, according to a needs assessment mission conducted by HAC, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the Government's Water and Environmental Sanitation Department (WES) last week. Findings indicate that the displaced people need food, emergency shelter and household supplies, as well as access to clean water, health and sanitation services.

According to the findings of the mission, these people fled their villages of Aradiba, Tiro, Bardany, Kara, Kurma, Noni, Kormal, Eldar Elbida, Jo Kosti, Bary Are, Wady Elnil, and Tigro in Central Jebel Marra locality. People reportedly fled these villages due to militia attacks and a lack of humanitarian assistance. The displaced people are currently sheltering in school buildings and around the health centre in the Wadi Jartaga and Wadi Bori areas of the town. Aid agencies are mobilising supplies to meet some of the needs of these people.

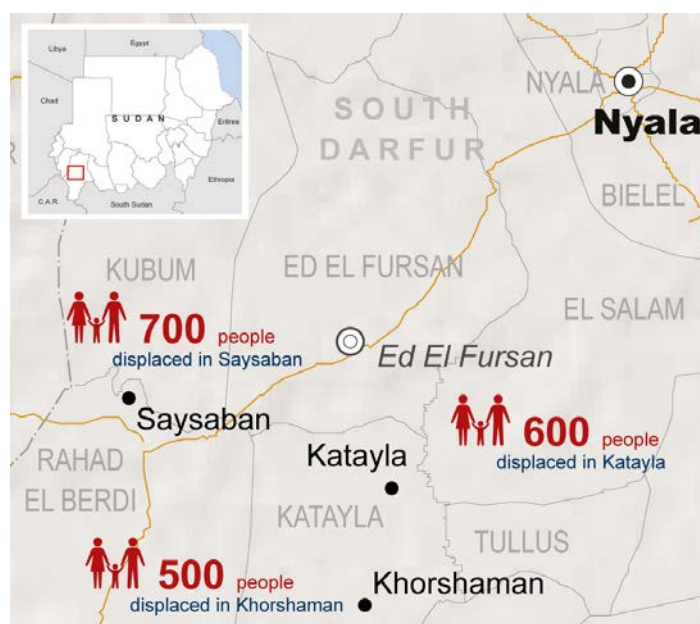
This is the third wave of new arrivals to Guldo town, according to HAC. The first wave of 4,300 people arrived in February and has received food as well as emergency shelter and household supplies. The second wave of some 6,000 people arrived in Guldo in early March and have yet to receive humanitarian assistance. According to HAC, this new wave of displacement has brought the total number of recently displaced people seeking refuge in Guldo town to 16,300.

Some 1,800 IDPs in Katayla locality, South Darfur

An inter-agency mission led by HAC and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) conducted a rapid needs assessment in South Darfur's Katayla locality.

This mission assessed the needs of people displaced to the area following conflict between the Salamat and Falata tribes on 21 March. These people fled their homes in Dimso, Saigoon, Rajaj, Gandool, Edd-Elardeib, and Sukara villages in Dimso and Tulus localities. Initial findings indicate that some 1,800 people (about 356 families) have taken refuge in

Katayla town (600 people), Khorshaman village (500 people) and in Saysaban village (700 people). The displaced people are in need of food, emergency shelter and household supplies as well as water and health services, according to the mission. Due to



An estimated 1,800 people from the Salamat tribe have fled their homes and taken refuge in Katayla locality following fighting with the Falata tribe

About 8,700 people fled their homes in North Darfur's Mellit locality following fighting between members of the Berti and Zyadia tribes

continued tensions between the two tribes, the number of people displaced in this area is expected to increase. Displaced people are sheltering near the police stations in these three locations, and local authorities and the native administrations have committed to ensure their safety, according to the mission.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will distribute emergency shelter and household supplies to the estimated 1,800 displaced people at these three sites. ICRC will send enough supplies to cover the needs of about 3,200 people in total, in anticipation of increased needs. WHO and the national NGO Mubadiroon have delivered three primary healthcare (PHC) kits to Katayla Rural Hospital. Each PHC kit covers the needs of 10,000 people for three months. Through WES, UNICEF will increase water pumping hours in these locations to meet the needs of newly arrived displaced people.

Some 8,700 people reportedly displaced in North Darfur's Mellit locality

An estimated 8,700 people fled their homes in North Darfur's Mellit locality and took refuge in surrounding locations following fighting between members of the Berti and Zyadia tribes. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has reported that some 8,000 people arrived in Saiyah town. According to HAC and IOM, 135 people arrived in Abassi internally displaced persons (IDP) camp. The African Union – United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) also reports the arrival of some 600 people in Mellit town.

AJOC calls for support to humanitarian operations in the Abyei area

Representatives of the Government of Sudan and the Government of South Sudan agreed to support sustained humanitarian and recovery/development programmes in the Abyei area. This agreement came during the ninth meeting of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee (AJOC) in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, between 29-30 March. It was suggested that humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with the two Governments, exert more efforts towards a holistic approach to assist people in need in the area. The final status of the Abyei area is yet to be determined.

HAC West Darfur requests support for returns

HAC West Darfur requested international humanitarian organisations operating in West Darfur to support and facilitate the return of an estimated 3,500 IDPs (700 families) from Forobaranga and Um Khair to their areas of origin - Joroko, Mamoon, Kainjo, Waigo and Dairo in Forobaranga locality. According to HAC, these displaced people expressed their intention to return to their villages in a letter addressed to HAC. UNHCR requested HAC to provide the detailed list of the displaced people willing to return. After the list is made available, UNHCR will conduct return intention/voluntariness assessments and recommend further steps accordingly.

According to the UNHCR, there are major gaps in the basic services available in return villages, particularly water, sanitation and education services. Officials from the Ministry of Education said that the ministry has no plans to support educational infrastructure in the return villages in its 2015 work plan.

Meanwhile, the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA) proposed a pilot project for the local integration of displaced people in West Darfur. DRA in collaboration with HAC, began a local integration intention survey, targeting displaced communities in three IDP camps, including Krinding 2 (700 families), Sisi (5,822 families) and Forobaranga (370 families). The survey seeks to determine the number of displaced people willing to integrate into the local community. According to HAC, the DRA will provide assistance package to those families who are willing to locally integrate. In addition, a land plot will be allocated to each family and they will be able to access community-based services. However, community-based services will be provided only for communities with a minimum of 500 locally integrated displaced families.

HAC West Darfur requests support to facilitate the return of an estimated 3,500 IDPs in Forobaranga locality

FEWS NET: newly displaced in South Kordofan and Darfur face food insecurity

Crisis and stressed levels of acute food insecurity are likely to persist among at least 25-30 per cent of IDPs and poor host communities in conflict-affected areas in South Kordofan, Darfur and Blue Nile – FEWS NET

According to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) Sudan Food Security Outlook Report for March 2015, food security conditions are expected to remain relatively stable in the coming months, except among displaced people and poor host communities in conflict-affected areas of South Kordofan, Darfur and Blue Nile states. In these areas, livelihood activities remain limited due to high levels of insecurity. Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) acute food insecurity are likely to persist among at least 25 to 30 per cent of displaced people and poor host communities in these areas. Of much concern are populations isolated by recent conflict in the Jebel Marra area.

In South Kordofan, newly displaced people have faced reduced access to food, seasonal income and humanitarian assistance, according to FEWS NET. HAC reports that an estimated 23,600 people fled their homes and have sought shelter in El Abassiya, Abu Jubaiha and Tajmala towns, following fighting between government forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N) in parts of the state. There have also been reports of people fleeing conflict areas into South Sudan's Unity State, according to FEWS NET.

In Darfur, recent conflict between government forces and armed movements has disrupted livelihood activities, especially in South Darfur's East Jebel Marra locality, in Central Darfur's Golo, Guldo, and Nertiti areas and in North Darfur's Tawila, Korma, Um Baru and Karnoi, according to FEWS NET. People in these areas face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) levels of food insecurity, FEWS NET reports. An estimated 36,700 people fled their homes due to this fighting, according to aid agencies.

FEWS NET: Food security outlook update – March 2015

