

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Insecurity and lack of access to basic services in parts of Jebel Amir area in North Darfur are leading to further displacement.
- The President of Sudan instructs Government ministries not to obstruct the movement of foreigners, excluding travel to places of conflict.
- The number of food insecure people in Sudan drops by 1 million from the same time last year due to bumper harvest, according to FEWS NET.

## FIGURES

IDPs in camps in Darfur receiving food aid (WFP)	1,430,000
Refugees in Sudan (UNHCR)	142,000
Sudanese refugees from Blue Nile and South Kordofan in South Sudan (UNHCR)	176,800
Sudanese refugees from Blue Nile in Ethiopia (UNHCR)	35,500

## FUNDING

**1 billion**  
requested (US\$)



UNAMID delivers aid in El Sireaf, North Darfur (El Garrai/UNAMID)

## In this issue

- More displacement in Jebel Amir, Darfur P.1
- President Bashir on travel of foreigners P.2
- Human trafficking in eastern Sudan P.3
- Shelter for IDPs in South Kordofan P.4

## Continued insecurity in Jebel Amir, Darfur

Tensions remain high in the Jebel Amir area in North Darfur, where some 100,000 people were displaced in January following inter-tribal fighting that broke in a gold mining area. According to reports from the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), continued insecurity and a rise in criminality against local populations and unescorted commercial trucks has led to a new wave of displacement from different parts of the state to Kebkabiya locality. HAC reports that there have been sporadic attacks and looting of unescorted commercial trucks on the Saraf Omra – El Sireaf road. National NGOs have also reported instances of looting of livestock.

National NGOs present in the area speak of about 6,000 displaced people in Kebkabiya. This includes people from the Beni Hussein tribe, who are reported to have fled from Garra Az Zawia, as well as other people from Gimir locality and from Mimra and Kurkur villages, near Saraf Omra. Insecurity and looting of livestock, as well as a lack of basic services in the areas they have come from, are the most common reasons for departure cited by those arriving in Kebkabiya.

According to reports from community leaders in camps for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Zalingei, some 500 people from the Jebel Amir have arrived recently in the Zalingei IDP camps in Central Darfur.

### More relief supplies on their way to the Jebel Amir area

On 2 February, the second batch of relief supplies planned for the first phase of the emergency response to the crisis in Jebel Amir left El Fasher town. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) transported by road about 148 metric tonnes (MT) of supplies for health, reproductive health and nutrition assistance; livestock feed; and non-food relief supplies for affected and displaced people in Saraf Omra, Kebkabiya, Garra Az Zawia and El Sireaf. Also on 2 February, the African Union-United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) airlifted 6MT of nutritional supplies and livestock vaccines to El Sireaf, Saraf Omra and Kebkabiya.



Displaced people take refuge in a public building in El Sireaf (El Garrai/UNAMID)

The supplies transported by road are yet to reach their final destinations. The road conditions are difficult and several of the trucks broke down and were stranded at different locations between Kutum and El Fasher for several days.

## Jebel Marra displaced people arrive in Nertiti

*About 8,000 people displaced from Jebel Marra have been verified in Nertiti*

As of 3 February, some 7,800 people displaced from the Jebel Marra area have been verified in Nertiti by HAC and humanitarian partners. This represents less than a third of the total of about 30,000 people who, according to HAC, have been displaced by fighting in the Jebel Marra area in recent weeks. According to HAC, a new wave of civilian displacement is expected to Nertiti from Golo, Guldo and other nearby areas following recent increased deployment of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the movement of an armed group in Rokero locality, Jebel Marra in Central Darfur State. The HAC commissioner in Nertiti has asked humanitarian partners to be on standby to provide assistance to the expected influx of displaced people.

According to humanitarian partners in Nertiti, assistance continues to be provided to people displaced from Jebel Marra. Nearly all of the 7,800 displaced people verified have been provided with non-food relief supplies and food assistance. Water and sanitation services are being provided by the Government's Water and Environmental Sanitation Department (WES) in collaboration with the UN Children's Agency (UNICEF) as well as the international NGOs Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) and Norwegian Church Aid (NCA). The World Food Programme (WFP) is distributing food aid. The displaced people are receiving health services from the IRW and NCA health clinics and from the local hospital.



Children in Jebel Marra area, Darfur (Farran/UNAMID)

## Umbararo nomads in South Darfur need aid

According to HAC in Tullus, South Darfur, there are some 37,500 Umbararo nomads in South Darfur who are unable to cross into South Sudan because the border between the two countries is closed. These nomads have settled in 13 locations in Tullus and Dimso localities. While an assessment is required to identify the exact needs of these groups of nomads, HAC reports that their living conditions are poor and that they are in need of food and non-food relief supplies as well as health, water, and education services. Humanitarian agencies have raised the issue of land ownership to HAC in South Darfur as the nomads are settled in private land, a situation which can lead to possible conflict with the landowners. According to UNICEF, nomads represent 8 per cent of Sudan's population.

## Do not obstruct foreigners' travel - President

According to media reports issued on 31 January, the President of Sudan has issued a directive to ministries to coordinate with the Ministry of Interior concerning any humanitarian activities in the country and not to obstruct the movement of foreigners who have official residence and travel permits. This does not, however, include travel to places affected by armed conflict.

## Some 3.5 million food insecure people in Sudan

The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports in its latest update on Sudan that in January 2013, about 3.5 million Sudanese people faced Stressed and Crisis (equivalent to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Phase 2 and 3) levels of food insecurity. Some 80 per cent of the food insecure

*Some 80 per cent of food insecure people in Sudan are in conflict-affected areas.*

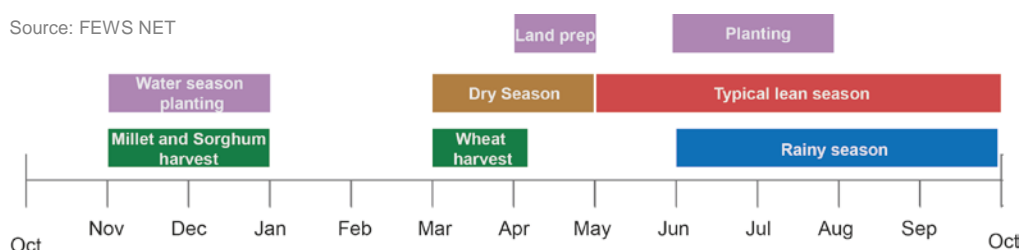
*In January 2013, some 3.5 million people are estimated as food insecure in Sudan, this is down from 4.5 million estimated in January 2012, according to FEWS NET*

people are in conflict-affected areas of Darfur, South Kordofan, Blue Nile, and Abyei. Last year at the same time, about 4.5 million people were estimated to be food insecure. According to FEWS NET, the decrease is mostly attributed to the good harvest this year. The total area planted during the 2012/13 season is more than double the previous year's figure, and yields are expected to be significantly higher than last year due to favourable rainfall and decreased pest infestations.

A surplus of 1.4 million MT of sorghum and millet is expected. However, high production costs (due to the shortage and high cost of labor) have discouraged some farmers from harvesting, which could increase post-harvest losses. In spite of the good harvest, Stressed and Crisis levels of food insecurity persist in South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Darfur, and Abyei due to the impacts of conflict on production, market access, and livelihood options. Crisis levels are expected to persist at least until June in areas of South Kordofan and Blue Nile controlled by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), and in conflict-affected areas of Darfur, in particular in the areas around Jebel Marra and Jebel Amir.

### Seasonal calendar and critical events in Sudan

Source: FEWS NET



## Human trafficking of refugees in eastern Sudan

On 2 February, the Sudan Tribune website reported that Eritrea's biggest opposition group had called for urgent action to stop abductions and disappearances of Eritrean refugees from Shagarab camp in eastern Sudan. This followed a statement from the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) on 25 January that reported a rising number of such incidents in and around refugee camps in eastern Sudan. In mid-January, about 400 refugees peacefully demonstrated outside the UNHCR reception office in Shagarab Refugee camp against the kidnapping of a refugee near the camp by Rashaida tribesmen.



Eritrean refugees arriving in eastern Sudan (Noy/UNHCR)

### People kidnapped are often held for ransom or trafficked elsewhere

In a briefing in Geneva, UNHCR spokesperson Melissa Fleming said that "over the last two years we have seen people disappearing from the Shagarab camps – some of them kidnapped, and others believed paying to be smuggled elsewhere. Those who are kidnapped are often held for ransom or trafficked onwards for the purpose of forced marriage, sexual exploitation or bonded labour." Due to the mixed forced / voluntary nature of the problem, data accuracy is an issue. The UNHCR Sudan office reports that 619 people have left the camps over the past two years, with 551 of these in 2012.

The risk of being kidnapped is highest for Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers as they enter Eastern Sudan. Based on numerous reports and individual interviews, the main actors responsible for human smuggling and trafficking from eastern Sudan into Egypt are local tribesmen in eastern Sudan and in the Sinai, as well as some criminal gangs.

*Over the last two years UNHCR has seen people disappearing from the Shagarab camps – some of them kidnapped, and others believed to have paid to be smuggled out*



*Some asylum seekers who pay to be smuggled may end up being sold by the traffickers or detained for ransom*

Some asylum seekers are kidnapped at the border between Eritrea and Sudan, before reaching the camps, while others are kidnapped in and around the camps in Eastern Sudan. Those people who pay to be smuggled appear to do so either to enter Sudan or for onward movement into Egypt or Israel. In many cases they also end up being abused by their smugglers who sell them to traffickers or detain them for ransom.

UNHCR is working with the Sudanese authorities, IOM and other humanitarian agencies to reduce the risk of abductions and kidnappings in the area. The Government has deployed additional police. UNHCR is supporting the authorities to improve overall security, with the construction and rehabilitation of police stations, provision of vehicles and communication equipment. UNHCR is also assisting the refugees in the Shagarab camps by setting up a community-based policing system to reduce security risks.

## Transitional shelters built in South Kordofan

As part of its plans to assist people displaced by conflict in South Kordofan State, UNHCR has completed the construction of 120 transitional shelters in Tafare area in Kadugli. These shelters were handed over to the State Government on 29 January for allocation to 120 displaced families. Based on the existing vulnerability criteria of UNHCR, beneficiaries for the transitional shelters are initially selected by community leaders. The initial beneficiary list is then screened and verified by a committee composed of HAC, the State Ministry of Social Development and Women and Child Affairs (MOSDW), the national NGO Nuba Mountains International Association for Development (NMIAD), UNHCR and beneficiary representatives. The construction for the second batch of 30 transitional shelters has started in Tilo village in East Kadugli. In total, UNHCR will construct 760 transitional shelters in South Kordofan benefiting an estimated 4,500 displaced people. The locations for constructing the remaining targeted 610 transitional shelters are to be determined in due course.

### Delami locality to be reconstructed, according to HAC

According to the Sudanese Media Centre (SMC), the HAC Commissioner in Delami has said that assistance will be provided to some 33,800 conflict affected people in the locality. According to the Commissioner, some 400MT of food has been pre-positioned in the locality to support the conflict-affected people for three months, starting from January 2013. HAC has also reported on the installation of 30 new water hand pumps and the provision of tractors for agricultural activities and to encourage people to return to their villages and resume farming.

### Some 1.2 million people in South Kordofan receive mosquito nets

As part of a nation-wide campaign for combating malaria in Sudan, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has reported that the South Kordofan State Ministry of Health (SMoH) has completed the distribution, which began in January, of 400,000 mosquito bed nets to 800,000 people in eight localities. These are Reif Ashargi, Delling, Al Qoz, Al Abassiya, Rashad, Lagawa, Al Salam, and Babanusa. In August 2012, the first batch of 200,000 mosquito bed nets was distributed to 400,000 people in the localities of Kadugli, Keilak and Abu Jubaiha in Southern Kordofan.

Overall, the campaign aims to distribute 3 million mosquito nets benefiting 6 million people in 15 states across the country with support from UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and WHO.

### Save the Children Sweden management of acute malnutrition

The international NGO Save the Children Sweden (SCS) has been supporting the SMoH in 15 locations in nine localities of South Kordofan to implement Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) since January 2012. During the week of 27 – 31 January 2013, SCS screened 1,382 children aged between 6-59 months at 15 facilities and registered 47 cases of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 121 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Since the start of the programme in January, 81,062 children under five years have been screened at 15 facilities, with 3,490 registered cases of SAM and 10,287 cases of MAM.

*Combating malaria campaign aims to distribute mosquito nets for 6 million people in 15 states across Sudan*