

HIGHLIGHTS

- Valerie Amos visits Sudan and warns of a serious funding crisis.
- Valerie Amos warns that in the war zone in South Kordofan and Blue Nile food is in short supply and people are dying every day from a lack of access to adequate health facilities, clean water and other basic services.
- Some IDPs who were previously sheltering near the UNAMID base outside of Muhajeria town in East Darfur have returned.
- About 6,500 people are displaced by more inter-tribal fighting in South Darfur.

FIGURES

IDPs in camps in Darfur receiving food aid (WFP)	1,430,000
Refugees in Sudan (UNHCR)	159,000
Sudanese refugees in Chad (UNHCR)	330,000
Sudanese refugees in South Sudan (UNHCR)	190,200

FUNDING

984 million
requested (US\$)

306 million
reported funding (US\$)

31%
reported funding



New IDPs from Muhajeria in Zam Zam camp, North Darfur (UNAMID)

In this issue

- Emergency Relief Coordinator's visit P.1
- Increase in IDPs from South Kordofan P.2
- Concerns for war-affected civilians P.3
- 6,500 flee tribal clashes in South Darfur P.4

UN Emergency Relief Coordinator visits Sudan

The United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Valerie Amos, visited Sudan from 20 to 23 May. The purpose of her visit was to look at humanitarian operations in the country and – given the sometimes difficult relations between the Government of Sudan and the United Nations on humanitarian issues – to work to build trust and confidence in order to put humanitarian organizations in a stronger position to help.

In a statement issued at the end of her visit, Ms. Amos said that civilians in Sudan are paying the biggest price in the war between rebel movements and the Government. "Whether it is Darfur, South Kordofan or Blue Nile, what is needed above all else is for the fighting to stop and for the conflicts to be resolved by peaceful means. The people of Sudan have suffered enough. Everyone I have spoken to in Sudan in the last three days has told me that what this country needs now is peace, not more war."

Ms. Amos said the United Nations and international community had in the past condemned the Government of Sudan when there were reports of armed attacks on civilians, as they have done elsewhere in the world, and that "it is important to note that rebel movements in Sudan are also responsible for similar crimes". She said she was shocked to hear detailed reports of the recent attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure by the Sudan Revolutionary Front in Northern Kordofan and parts of South Kordofan and she said "I condemn these attacks on civilians in the strongest terms."

Ms. Amos expressed her concern for the safety and well-being of all civilians in war-affected areas. Concerning people in areas that are not under Government control, she reminded the Government and the the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) that the UN has called on both sides to agree to a halt in fighting for one week to allow it to carry out a polio vaccination campaign for 150,000 children under



Children welcoming Valerie Amos in Zam Zam camp, North Darfur (UNAMID)

five years of age. She said that Sudan has recently been declared polio free and leaving pockets of unvaccinated children risks reversing this hard-won status, and she stressed that the vaccines have no military value. Following a recent escalation in fighting between the Government and SPLM-N, Ms. Amos expressed her hope that direct talks between

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both sides “will resume soon and that they will lead to a resolution of the conflict so that people can return to their homes and start to rebuild their lives”.

During her visit, Ms. Amos had a chance to see first-hand the humanitarian situation in Darfur when she visited Zam Zam camp for internally displaced persons (IDPs) outside El Fasher, North Darfur. “Despite all the hardship that the people in Zam Zam camp have endured over the last ten years, I was sorry to see that they still suffer from a lack of adequate basic services, including schools and the necessary education materials for their children. There are hundreds of thousands of children all over Darfur who were born in camps and who have never known life outside these camps. We cannot forget these children,” Ms. Amos said.

Ms. Amos said she was concerned that despite overall needs increasing, the amount of funding available to humanitarian organizations is decreasing. She said this was for a variety of reasons, including concerns about where agencies are permitted to go because of the ongoing conflict, competing needs in other countries, and a difficult global economic environment. She said “we have a serious funding crisis in Sudan” and stressed the need to expand partnerships and attract funding from other Governments in the region and elsewhere in the world.

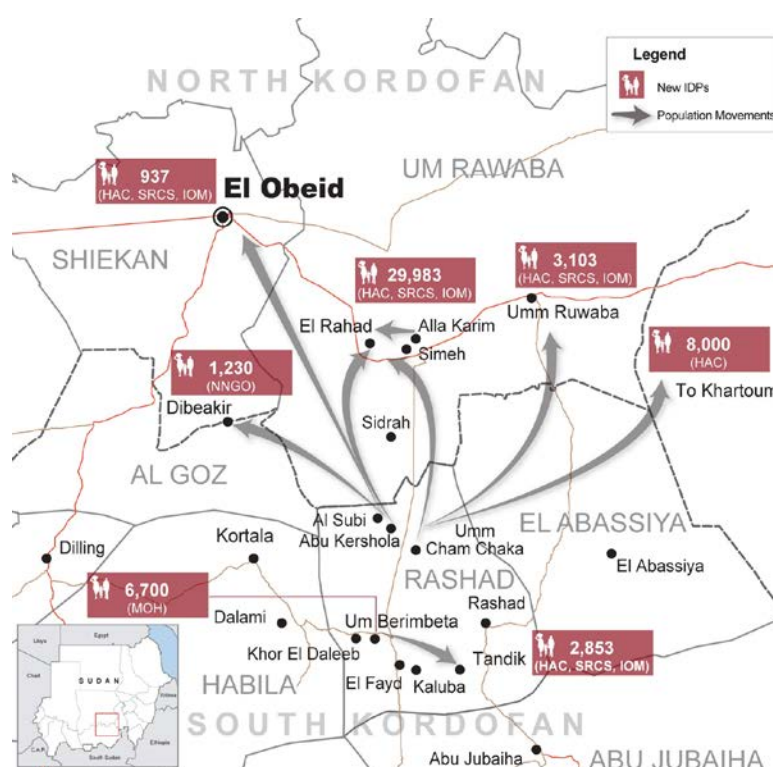
The UN estimates that 300,000 people have fled fighting in all of Darfur in the first five months of this year, which is more than the total number of people displaced in the last two years put together. “This is an extremely worrying situation and it is clear that humanitarian aid agencies are struggling to cope,” Ms. Amos stated.

Over 53,000 IDPs from South and North Kordofan

According to media reports, fighting in parts of South Kordofan State between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Sudan Revolutionary Front (SRF), a coalition of armed opposition movements including the SPLM-N, intensified over the reporting period.

On 23 May, fighting between SAF and SPLM-N forces broke out in El Ehemer village, 32 km south of Kadugli, and at Balangia village, 17 km south of Kadugli. On 26 May, UN staff in Kadugli reported that the SPLM-N fired six mortar shells into Fawa village, 8 km south of Kadugli.

In SPLM-N areas, the SPLM-N reported on 25 May that aerial bombardments of Kauda in Heiban locality resulted in the death of one child and injuries to another five children and two adults. In a letter dated 20 May, the Secretary-General of the SPLM-N stated that “more than 24 civilians were killed in the last three months in Blue Nile and Nuba Mountains alone and more were injured as a result of the Sudan air force aerial bombardment against civilian targets”. The UN has no presence in SPLM-N areas and has not been able to independently verify these reports.



The number of people displaced by fighting in the Abu Kershola and Um Berimbeta areas of South Kordofan stands at some 53,000 people

The number of IDPs from Abu Kershola reported by HAC as being in Khartoum had increased to 8,000 people, from 3,100 people the week before

More displaced people from Abu Kershola and other areas

According to the latest reports from the Government of Sudan's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Sudanese Red Crescent Society (SRCS), national NGOs and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), since April some 53,000 people have been displaced from Abu Kershola and Um Berimbata areas in South Kordofan and from around Um Ruwaba in North Kordofan. This figure has increased by 6,000 people over the last week, largely due to an increase in the number of IDPs arriving in Khartoum. The number of IDPs from the current crisis reported by HAC as being in Khartoum had increased to 8,000 people, from 3,100 people the week before.

Preparations are underway by the international NGOs Plan International, Concern Worldwide, Mercy Corps Scotland and Care International Switzerland, to send a convoy containing health, education and water, sanitation and hygiene relief items to IDPs currently sheltering in El Rahad in North Kordofan State.

Abu Kershola IDPs in Al Qoz locality need food and non-food aid

A recent assessment by Government institutions, including HAC, and the national NGO SIBRO conducted in Dibeakir, Bashama, Um Galib, Alesiylat, and Al Ginzier villages in Al Qoz locality of South Kordofan verified 1,230 new IDPs from Abu Kershola, a slight increase from the 1,000 people previously reported. The displaced people report that they fled their homes two weeks ago, but have yet to receive any humanitarian assistance. Their main needs are food, non-food relief items and shelter. Water hand pumps in the area are not working, forcing the displaced people and the host community to use water from sources that are also used for livestock, increasing the risk of water-borne diseases. Preparations are underway by humanitarian partners, in collaboration with HAC, to mobilise assistance to address the needs of these IDPs.



New IDPs from Abu Kershola in El Rahad, North Kordofan (SRCS)

Concerns for civilians in areas not controlled by the Government

During her visit to Sudan, Ms. Amos expressed particular concern for the safety and welfare of those war-affected civilians in areas not under Government control to which the United Nations has not had any access for almost two years. She said the stories told by refugees arriving in South Sudan and the poor conditions in which many of them arrive, are a constant reminder of the hardships faced by people in the war zone. She said that farming is affected, food is in short supply and people die every day from a lack of access to adequate health facilities, clean water and other basic services. She said "we know this also from those humanitarian organisations which have crossed the border to assist people in desperate need".

The United Nations continues to call on the Government of Sudan to allow it to send staff into the SPLM-N areas to assess humanitarian needs, but this has still not been authorized. Meanwhile, the latest report from the Juba-based group "South Kordofan and Blue Nile Coordination Unit" states that aerial bombardment during May in Buram, Dalami, Heiban, Rashad, Umm Dorain, and Western Kadugli localities in South Kordofan resulted in civilian casualties and displacement. The report, which covers the period between 8 and 22 May, also indicates that an increase in ground fighting has caused more displacement of civilians in Western Kadugli, Al Abbasiya, Buram and Dalami localities.

Concerning Blue Nile State, the same report mentions that intensive aerial bombardment continued in Kurmuk locality during April, causing damage to civilian infrastructure. It

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mentions ongoing internal displacement of more than 20,000 people in the Chali and Wadeka areas, and it says that the humanitarian situation in these areas, as well as Yabus, continued to deteriorate during the reporting period as a result of shelling and aerial bombardment. It says that food insecurity continues to be of high concern for displaced and vulnerable populations in SPLM-N-controlled areas, and that several thousand IDPs have moved south to Summari town in order to avoid ground fighting in northern areas of Wadeka, with no access to water or food supplies.

Displaced people from East Darfur need help

According to reports received by the UN, some IDPs who were previously sheltering near the African Union – United Nations Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) Team Site have started returning to Muhajeria town in East Darfur, but the majority remain displaced, with most of them now in IDP camps in the Nyala area and in Ed Daien. The national NGOs MUSCO and the Sudan Popular Committee for Relief and Rehabilitation (SPCR) verified almost 6,000 newly displaced people from Muhajeria in Abu Hadid, Selea, Yassin and Tamra in East Darfur during their visit to these areas on 9 and 10 May. According to MUSCO and SPCR, the priority needs of the IDPs include emergency shelter, food and non-food relief supplies, access to water and sanitation, health and education. Merlin reports that the arrival of the new IDPs has put pressure on existing basic services in Selea and Yassin, particularly health, water and sanitation. Merlin is worried that the situation could deteriorate further during the rainy season, which is expected to begin in the next two weeks. In Labado, UNAMID reports that the town is still empty, while about 8,000 IDPs are still sheltering near the UNAMID Team Site outside the town.

The influx of IDPs from Muhajeria to El Neem camp near Ed Daein has stopped, according to camp community leaders. In total, almost 11,400 IDPs have now arrived at El Neem camp since 6 April. Meanwhile, the humanitarian response to the new IDPs in El Neem is continuing. WFP provided a second round of 15-day emergency food rations to the new IDPs last week. The Government's Water and Environment Sanitation Department (WES) and the international NGO UMCOR



New IDPs from Muhajeria in El Neem camp near Ed Daein (UN)

continue providing water and sanitation services. Furthermore, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) established a temporary health post to serve new IDPs in the camp. Current major gaps in services include shelter, education and child protection.

Tribal clashes in South Darfur: 6,500 new IDPs

An estimated 6,500 people fled Kaytila and sought refuge in Tulus following inter-tribal violence

On 22 May 2013, fighting erupted again between the Beni Halba and Gimir tribes in Kaytila town, South Darfur, which is mostly inhabited by the Gimir tribe. An estimated 6,500 people fled Kaytila and sought refuge in Tulus. Local authorities informed UNAMID that 31 civilians, including seven children and seven women were killed, while another 21 people were reportedly injured. This is the second time in less than three months that fighting has erupted between the two tribes. After fighting that began on 1 March 2013, the Government intervened and tried to reconcile the two tribes. However, since then tension has been growing between the two tribes over Government-led land demarcation efforts. HAC has requested humanitarian organisations to conduct a needs assessment mission to Tulus when the security situation allows.