

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 22,600 returnees to Muradaf village will be relocated to other locations to prevent possible conflict with the village landowners.
- Suspected dengue fever cases stand at 523.
- According the Food Security Monitoring Unit (FSMU), some 45,000 people in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states have been displaced due to poor harvests.
- In Blue Nile state, WFP distributed food to 24,843 people in El Roseires, Bau, and Ed Damazine localities.
- The BRACED programme aims to build resilience of families and communities in North, South and West Darfur states.

FIGURES 2015 HRP

Displaced people in Sudan (as of Dec 2014)	3.1 million
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Displaced people in Darfur (as of Dec 2014) (in 2015)	2.5 million 233,000
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GAM burden	2 million
South Sudanese refugee arrivals in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (UNHCR)	198,707

Refugees of other nationalities (UNHCR)	173,441
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FUNDING

1.04 billion
requested in 2015 (US\$)

57%
reported funding



Sudanese refugees in Tissi settlement, Chad (UNHCR, file photo)

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Returnees to Muradaf village, Central Darfur, will be relocated to other areas in Um Dukhun locality

On 16 December, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the Sudanese Commission of Refugees (COR) conducted a verification mission to Central Darfur's Muradaf village, Um Dukhun locality, to verify reports of the return of 30,000 people from refugee camps in Chad. The verification team identified that 22,617 Sudanese citizens from the Salamat tribe have returned to Muradaf village this year. The Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC) in Central Darfur is concerned about the returns to Muradaf village as the village belongs to the Fur tribe who are currently displaced in camps in Um Dukhun. If the Salamat settle in the village, conflict with the landowners is possible. Consequently, HAC has requested UNHCR and COR to conduct another mission in January 2016 to register the returnees before an inter-sectoral assessment is conducted. According to HAC, the government plans is to relocate the returnees to three areas in Um Dukhun locality to avoid possible conflict with the landowners.

The returnees are in need of emergency shelter and household supplies as well as water and sanitation services, according to findings of a mission conducted to the area by the Government's Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), the international NGO Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH), and traditional leaders on 17 November. The existing water points are in need of rehabilitation and people are drinking from the nearby wadi. Also, the lack of a proper sanitation system is putting the population at risk of contracting diseases.

These returnees fled their home villages and from Um Dukhun town in 2013 due to inter-tribal fighting between the Misseriya and Salamat tribes. According to the returnees, they had been living in Abu Gadam refugee camp in Chad until June 2015 when the Chadian Government decided to close the camp and move the refugees about 110 kilometres



Sudanese refugees in Chad being moved from the border area (UNHCR, file photo June 2014)

inside Chad. The refugees opted to return to Sudan but not to their areas of origin in villages to the south of Um Dukhun town, which they still see as unsafe to return to due to the continued presence of Misseriya tribesmen in these areas.

Suspected dengue fever cases stand at 523, including 104 deaths, as of 18 December

523 suspected dengue fever cases, including 104 deaths, were reported in Sudan as of 18 December

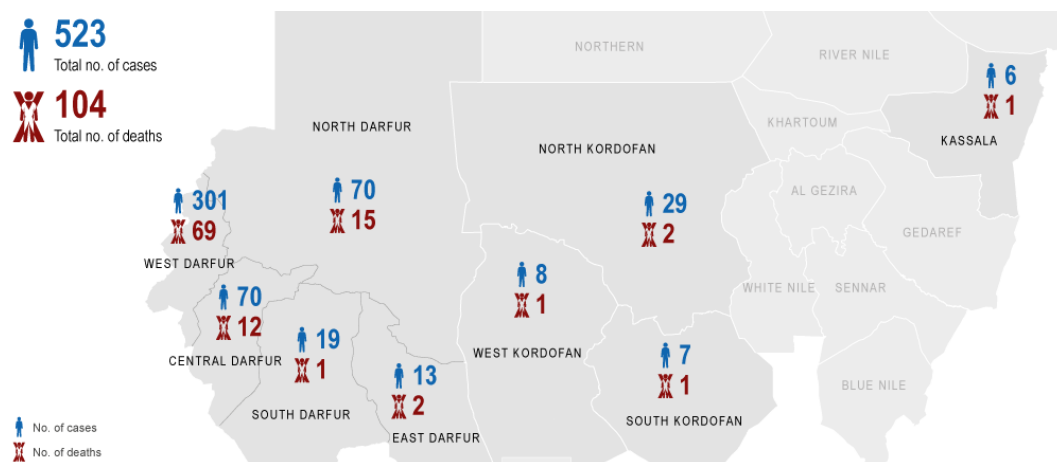
According to the Ministry of Health (MoH), a total of 523 suspected dengue fever cases, including 104 deaths, were reported in Sudan between 29 August (when the outbreak started) and 18 December. The reduction in the number of cases and deaths is due to the review of all reported cases by the MoH, which led to the exclusion of cases that did not match case definition. The outbreak had initially affected Darfur but has spread to Kassala and Kordofan states. According to the MoH, 53 per cent of all reported cases are male and the age group 5 to 14 years has the highest number of cases (44 per cent).

In Darfur, 473 suspected cases—including 99 deaths—were reported in 27 localities. In Kordofan, 44 suspected cases—including four deaths—were reported in the eight localities of Abyei, Keilak, Babanousa (West Kordofan), Reif Ashargi, Kadugli, Habila, Lagawa (South Kordofan) and Shiekan (North Kordofan). In Kassala state, six suspected cases—including one death—were reported in the state capital Kassala town.

In response, WHO provided trainings on water quality testing and integrated vector management to 60 people in South and Central Darfur states. WHO and the State Ministry of Health (SMoH) conducted health promotion activities in all affected localities reaching 13,600 people. In Central and West Darfur states, the UN Children's Agency (UNICEF) continued to support health and hygiene promotion activities. UNICEF also supported radio discussions on dengue fever reaching about 549,000 people. In West Darfur, the international NGO Médecins Sans Frontières - Switzerland (MSF-CH) is supporting an isolation ward El Geneina Teaching Hospital and is providing health education and active surveillance within El Geneina locality. The international NGO Save the Children Sweden (SCS) conducted awareness-raising sessions in Habila, Mornie and Kereinik localities reaching 1,560 people. SCS also inspected water containers for mosquito breeding and provided medicine and laboratory reagents to the Kereinik isolation centre. The International Organization for Immigration (IOM) conducted a training workshop on viral haemorrhagic fever and malaria response in Mornie village, Kereinik locality, targeting 40 people from the community. In North Darfur, the international NGO Relief international (RI) provided education materials on viral haemorrhagic fever to be disseminated in RI clinics in the state. RI also trained 50 community volunteers in how to conduct health education campaigns.

Suspected dengue fever cases in Sudan (29 August – 18 December 2015)

Source: Ministry of Health & World Health Organization



Thousands of people in South Kordofan and Blue Nile will need assistance due to poor harvests

According to the latest Food Security Monitoring Unit (FSMU) October – November 2015 report, poor harvests, insufficient food stocks and poor pastureland for livestock has displaced people from South Kordofan’s Habila and Delling localities. According to the FSMU, an estimated 15,000 displaced people in Delling locality will need humanitarian assistance next year as this year’s poor harvest. In Blue Nile State, 30,000 people in Chali and Wadaka villages, El Kurmuk locality, will need assistance through February 2016 also due to the poor harvest this year. Late rains, however, have slightly improved prospects for December 2015 – February 2016 harvest.

Assistance provided to people in need in Blue Nile State

Aid organizations continue to provide people in accessible areas of Blue Nile State with much needed assistance. From 15 – 21 December, the World Food Program (WFP) completed the December general food distributions for 24,843 people in the villages of Azaz, El-Geri and Shanisah (El Roseires locality), in Shaid Afendi (Bau locality), and in Haroun-Almahata (Ed Damazine locality). A total of 390 metric tons (MT) of assorted food items were distributed. Between December 2015 and early January 2016, WFP will re-assess the food security situation in these five locations.

On 23 December, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)—through the national NGO Humanitarian Aid and Development (HAD)—started the distribution of winter season vegetable seeds for 2,000 farmers in Ed Damazine and El Roseires localities. The distribution will be completed soon. FAO—in collaboration with the State Ministry of Animal Resources (SMoAR) and the national NGO Charitable Organization for Rehabilitation and Development (CORD)—are conducting a livestock vaccination and treatment campaign targeting 100,000 heads of livestock across the six localities in the state. The campaign started in November and will be completed in January 2016.

Fighting food insecurity by promoting local seed multiplication and growing improved crop varieties

The international NGO Concern Worldwide (CW) and the national NGO Al Massar Charity Organization for Nomads Development and Environmental Conservation—with support from the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID)—is implementing a three year programme called “Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters” (BRACED) in Sudan. The programme aims to build resilience of families and communities by helping them improve their livelihoods in the context of climate stresses and shocks, ill-health and inequalities. It also aims to strengthen local institutions such as communities, local authorities, and technical institutions to anticipate and predict for increasing variability seasonal conditions. The programme targets over 100,000 men and women in pastoral and settled communities in North, South and West Darfur states. This programme comes at an opportune time when the country is starting to feel the climatic effects of El Niño on this year’s harvest. According to FAO, the current situation in Sudan shows the importance of combining humanitarian response with initiatives that enhance resilience and ultimately food security of vulnerable communities.

In West Darfur, CW and El Geneina Agriculture Research Corporation (GARC) are supporting the government’s efforts in addressing the impact of climate change on crop production thereby contributing to improved food security. From July to November 2015, the two organizations implemented a pilot project bringing together the science of drought resistant crop varieties and support to strengthen farmers’ skills in seeds multiplication and distribution. The pilot project targeted 250 farmers from Kulbus, El Geneina and Jebel Moon localities who were provided with varieties of millet, sorghum, and groundnut to cultivate an area including 127 feddans (52.3 hectares) of sorghum, 125 feddans (52.5 hectares) of millet and 92 feddans (38.9 hectares) of groundnut. When GARC assessed

WFP distributed food to 24,843 people in El Roseires, Bau, and Ed Damazine localities

Improved seed varieties showed a significant improvement in both growth and yield compared to that of local seeds

the performance of the sorghum and millet cultivation in four of these villages in El Geneina locality, they found that the improved seed varieties have shown a significant improvement in both growth and yield performance compared to that of local seeds. For example, the improved variety of seeds showed an average maturity rate of between 72 to 75 days for sorghum and millet respectively, which is 20 and 18 days faster than traditional seed varieties of the same grains. In addition, the grain yield was higher by 53 per cent and 44 per cent per unit area for sorghum and millet respectively compared to the traditional seed varieties.

At the time of the assessment, the four villages had created a seed reserve of 2,110kg of sorghum and 770kg of millet in the community seed banks that are being managed by the community seed bank management committees in their respective areas. A total of 28 committee members—including seven women and 21 men—received training in seed management procedures and the basic principles of community seed banks. These initial results show that improving crop productivity by adopting new technologies and establishing sustainable short mature seed multiplication systems can improve harvest yields. The fact that the growth and maturity periods observed were short leads to the assumption that potential conflict between pastoralists and farmers could be reduced as crops will be in the fields for a shorter time. In addition, the community seed banks will allow communities to have a ready source of seeds that are easily accessible in case of any anticipated drought or flood conditions resulting from climate variability. Communities would also have the choice in deciding the best time for planting. The next phase of the programme will focus on expanding this approach to more areas.



Sorghum field in West Darfur's Banjadeed village, El Geneina locality (Concern)