

HIGHLIGHTS

- Talks between the Government of Sudan and SPLM-N in Addis Ababa have been postponed until after 25 October 2014.
- UNHCR reports that 1,744 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Sudan over the past week, bringing the total number to 98,347 people.
- Two national NGOs – NIDO and JMCO - received clearance to conduct health needs assessments in the eastern Jebel Marra, Darfur.
- The number of food insecure people in Sudan is expected to start declining from 5.2 million from October 2014 and is expected to reduce to 3.5 million people at the peak of the harvest.

FIGURES

People in need of humanitarian aid in Sudan	6.9 million
Displaced people in Sudan	2.9 million
IDPs in Darfur in 2013	2 million
IDPs in 2014 (to date)	351,569
GAM caseload	1.4 million
Refugees in Sudan (UNHCR)	157,000
South Sudanese refugees in Sudan - since 15 Dec 2013 (UNHCR)	98,347

FUNDING

986 million
requested in 2014 (US\$)

47.2 %
reported funding



Displaced people on the move in South Kordofan (SRRA)

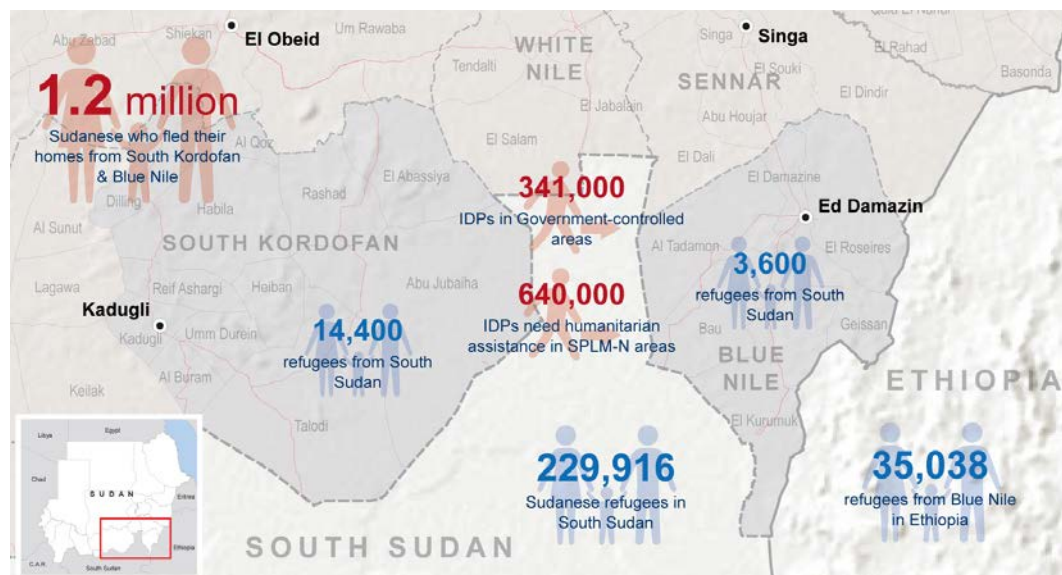
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Talks on South Kordofan and Blue Nile in Addis Ababa postponed until after 25 October

The head of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP), Thabo Mbeki, told the media that the next round of talks between the Sudanese Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N) that was scheduled to take place on 12 October in Addis Ababa had been postponed until after 25 October 2014. Mbeki, citing the Government's chief negotiator, said that some members of the Government negotiating team were involved in the preparation of the National Congress Party (NCP) General Convention to take place 20-25 October 2014. Mbeki earlier announced that the Sudanese Government delegation were expected to hold parallel meetings in Addis Ababa with the SPLM-N on 12 October and with Darfur armed movements on 15 October to discuss a cessation of hostilities agreement.

Negotiations between the Government and SPLM-N are important in securing a sustainable and lasting solutions for the plight of more 1.2 million Sudanese who have fled their homes in parts of South Kordofan and Blue Nile states after fighting erupted between Government forces and SPLM-N in June 2011. This includes 341,000 IDPs in Government-controlled areas of South Kordofan and Blue Nile, according to the updated Humanitarian Needs Overview of the Sudan 2015 Strategic Response Plan. In SPLM-N held areas there are an estimated 640,000 IDPs who need humanitarian assistance, according to various sources, including the Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (SRRA) - the humanitarian arm of SPLM-N, NGOs and community-based organisations in SPLM-N areas. In addition, the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) reports that since 2011 257,000 Sudanese refugees from South Kordofan and Blue Nile have sought refuge in South Sudan and Ethiopia. At the same time, South Kordofan hosts 14,400 South Sudanese refugees, while Blue Nile has received 3,600 refugees from South Sudan so far, according to UNHCR.



WFP plans to reduce food rations in South Kordofan by 50 per cent

From January to August 2014, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) and its cooperating partners distributed full ration food assistance to some 170,000 people in South Kordofan. WFP's ability to provide life-saving interventions has been affected by insufficient funding for the months October-December 2014 therefore it has to reduce ration size by half. The Government has requested WFP to undertake assessments of 200 schools to resume its school feeding programmes in South Kordofan. Currently, WFP is analysing its data from assessments conducted in 97 schools.

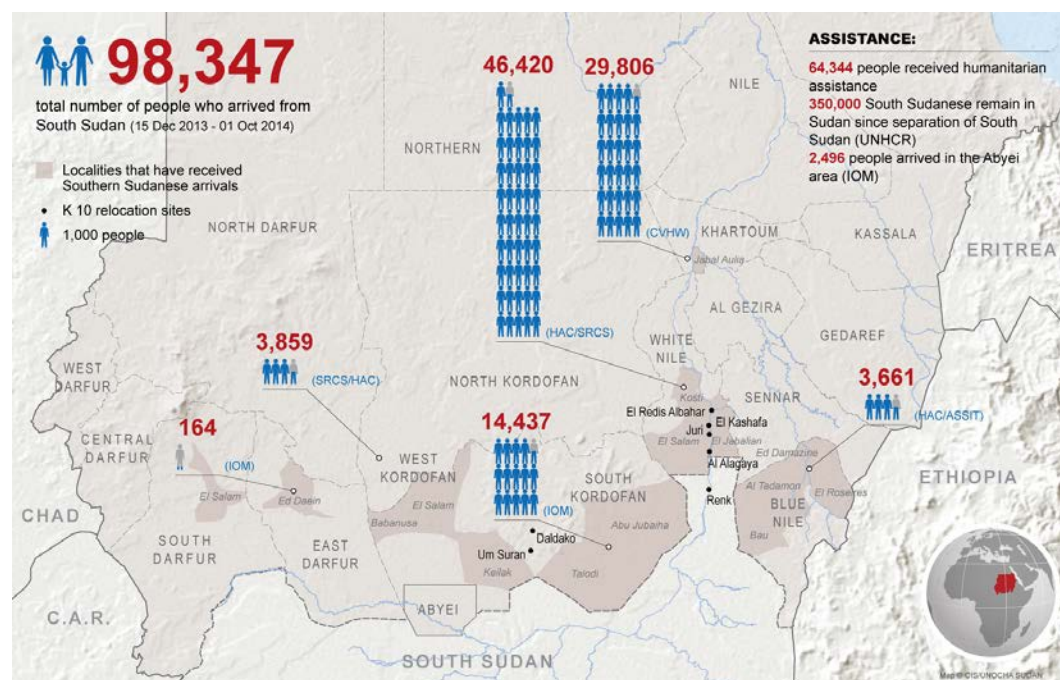
Influx of refugees from South Sudan continues

UNHCR reports that 1,744 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Sudan over the past week. The total number of refugees from South Sudan stands at 98,347 people

UNHCR reports that an additional 1,744 South Sudanese refugees arrived in Sudan during the week ending on 1 October, bringing the total number of refugees from South Sudan since mid-December 2013 to 98,347. This figure, however, does not include a number of newly arrived South Sudanese known to be living with host communities and in border areas. These figures will be updated further following a verification exercise conducted this week. This latest increase has come after recent fighting in Renk County, South Sudan. The majority arrived in the Jabalain locality of White Nile State.

The flow of new arrivals is continuing, with many in a desperate state of humanitarian need, UNHCR reported. With the end of the rainy season in South Sudan and peace talks between the Government and rebels stalling in Addis Ababa, it is likely that fighting will increase resulting in more refugees from northern parts of South Sudan fleeing to Sudan. The "most likely" scenario in the Regional Inter-Agency Refugee Contingency Plan projects that 165,000 new refugees from South Sudan will have arrived by the end of 2014.

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) reports that it has provided food to more than 64,000 South Sudanese refugees in White Nile, South Kordofan and West Kordofan states since mid-December 2013. Given resource constraints facing the operation, WFP is considering reducing or suspending programmes in other parts of the country in order to prioritize assistance to new arrivals from South Sudan. WFP noted that its Sudan operations face critical resource shortfalls, with US\$10 million needed until the end of 2014.

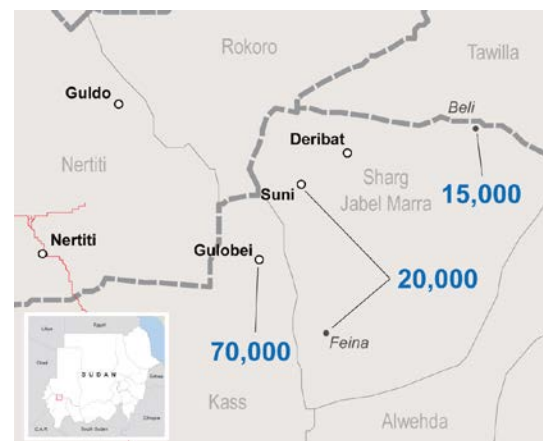


Efforts to access Eastern Jebel Marra continue

Two national NGOs – NIDO and JMCO - received clearance to conduct health needs assessments in the eastern Jebel Marra area of Darfur

The National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) and the Military Intelligence (MI) have authorised two national NGOs - National Initiative Development Organisation (NIDO) and Jebel Marra Charity Organisation (JMCO) - to conduct health assessments in the eastern Jebel Marra area in Darfur. The two NGOs are yet to start the assessments due to reported ongoing clashes between Government forces and the Sudan Liberation Army – Abdul Wahid (SLA-AW) in the area.

Aid agencies have been unable to access an estimated 100,000 people in need of humanitarian aid in eastern Jebel Marra since 2010. According to NIDO and JMCO, most of the people in eastern Jebel Marra are residing in areas controlled by SLA/AW, with the exception of Beli. Beli is reported to be hosting an estimated population of 15,000 people, while Feina and Suni are reported to be hosting an estimated 20,000 people. Gulobei is reportedly hosting 70,000 people. Meanwhile, OCHA has submitted a request through HAC for a mission to eastern Jebel Marra, which is still under review by security forces. A UNAMID-led mission with the participation of UN aid agencies to Dobo Jadida village in eastern Jebel Marra that was scheduled to take place on 5 October was not permitted by NISS.



DRA to commence registration of IDPs in Darfur

The Darfur Regional Authority's (DRA) Commissioner for Voluntary Return and Resettlement Commission (VRRRC) reports that the VRRRC received funding to support registration activities for IDPs enabling IDPs to receive national identification numbers at camp level instead of through police offices. A committee has been instituted to manage the process, with verification of the IDPs being done through the sheiks and elders in the camps.

The four-month project is targeting IDPs in camps, gathering areas, and IDPs who have returned. The issuance of these cards is expected to help them to acquire national documents like passports, birth certificates, and land titles, most of which were lost during displacement. Generally, IDPs are reportedly positive and supportive of the exercise, as this will not affect their IDP status. It is understood that the documents will facilitate the resolution of land ownership disputes, identification for compensation according to Doha Agreement, and aid IDP students sitting for university exams.

According to the DRA, there are 2.3 million displaced people in camps, gatherings and host communities in Darfur. According to international aid agencies, the total number of displaced people in Darfur as of May 2014 was 2.4 million.

Number of displaced people per state, according to the DRA

State	Number of displaced people
Central Darfur	464,459
East Darfur	188,241
North Darfur	615,660
South Darfur	667,457
West Darfur	373,225
TOTAL	2,309,042

DRA to start registering IDPs in all of Darfur shortly, supporting the issuance of national identification numbers, identification cards and other documents

Number of food insecure people in Sudan to drop from 5.2 million to 3.5 million – FEWS NET

The number of food insecure people in Sudan is expected to start declining from 5.2 million from October 2014 and assumed to reduce to 3.5 million people at the peak of the harvest

According to the new Food Security Outlook Update for September 2014 report issued by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the number of food insecure people in Sudan is expected to start declining from the peak lean season figure of 5.2 million in September to 3.5 million people at the peak of the harvest season – October to December. This is due to anticipated 'average' to 'above-average' harvests, particularly in traditional agricultural surplus areas, which will increase access to food and income.

Findings of a joint inter-agency mid-season assessment conducted this month show that there has been average to above-average rainfall in most parts of Sudan with sufficient soil moisture for crops to ripen. Rainfall in the traditional surplus areas of South Kordofan, Blue Nile, Sennar, White Nile, Gedaref and parts of Kassala has been above average and the harvest forecasts are very positive, according to experts. Based on these findings, FEWS NET assumes there will be average to above-average harvests of staple and cash crops in most parts of Sudan this year and that significant improvements in food security are expected in most parts of country starting in late September.

Nevertheless, at least 20 per cent of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North (SPLM-N) controlled areas of South Kordofan will remain in Crisis (IPC Phase 3) due to restricted access to humanitarian assistance, ongoing conflict, and reduced access to cash income from seasonal agricultural labour, according to FEWS NET. Other areas of concern will improve to Stressed (IPC Phase 2) acute food insecurity, including IDP areas in Darfur.

Food insecurity levels in Sudan in October-December 2014 (FEWS NET)

